

16th JULY, 1983 30p

Shoot!

SUMMER SHOCKERS

WOODCOCK'S GOAL-BOOSTER



SECRETS OF TREVOR FRANCIS

Arsenal's Tony Woodcock (red shirt) and his England striking partner Trevor Francis (inset, blue shirt) are both featured inside.

'NICHOLAS IS SCARED' says Phil Thompson AUSTRALIA v ENGLAND COLOUR ACTION

BARNES

Winners AND Losers

MANCHESTER CITY have more chance of finishing in the Third Division than they have back in the First!

That's the staggering indictment on a once great club who could well nosedive to total oblivion next season.

The famous sky blues of Maine Road are bankrupt both financially and from a playing point of view.

City are far worse equipped to face a demanding Second Division campaign than the last occasion they tasted the bitterness of relegation 20 years ago.

In 1963, the club had a squad of sufficient strength in numbers, quality and character that saw them claw back winning the Division Two Championship for a record sixth time within three years of going down.

Only a minor miracle by Billy McNeill the club's 14th post War manager and the ninth in the last 11 years can achieve a transformation in a team destined to play forever in the giant shadow of their more illustrious neighbours, Manchester United.

Hurts

The constant comparison with the F.A. Cup winning Reds hurts deeply with diehard City fans. But the brutal truth is that Maine Road is currently suffering from disastrous mismanagement emanating from the boardroom down.

Peter Swales and his directors have made a complete hash of stabilising a club that won every domestic honour in sight during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

City are saddled with a crippling £1.5m bank overdraft and the cost of paying for the new roof on the Maine Road centre stand — a further near £1m — has still to be found.

It leaves virtually no money for

NEW weekly series in which we examine the prospects for next season of the Football League's promoted and relegated clubs. It is written exclusively by journalists who shared the clubs' glory and despair last season.

MANCHESTER CITY

It's desperate!

By PETER GARDNER
Manchester Evening News

Billy McNeill to spend on sorely needed reinforcements, particularly up front and in midfield.

City's problem last season was always clear — they couldn't score goals. Even David Cross, a proven

marksman with previous clubs that included West Brom, West Ham, Norwich and Coventry, failed to hit it off following a £135,000 move from The Hammers.

Nevertheless, he still finished leading scorer prior to moving to Vancouver Whitecaps before the relegation trapdoor snapped shut.

Kevin Reeves, unsettled after domestic problems at the end of last season, has been sold at a knockdown £125,000 to Burnley, so much will be expected of teenager Steve Kinsey, an emerging former England youth international.

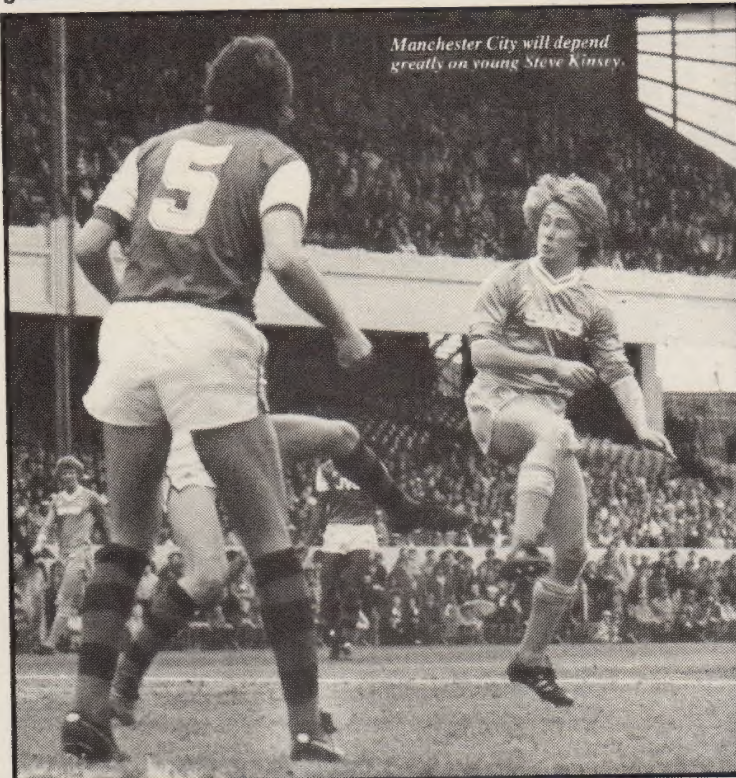
Asa Hartford, if he too remains, will bear the brunt of carrying the midfield load, assisted by skipper Paul Power and Graham Baker, a bitter disappointment following his £225,000 move from Southampton almost a year ago.

City are reasonably equipped at the back, with Tommy Caton, Nicky Reid and Kevin Bond battling for two central defensive positions.

It could be at least one of them will be sold to fund vital transfer missions to inject much-needed new blood.

But overall, City's plight is such that I forecast a desperate season in which the club may yet have another bitter relegation battle on their hands, especially if they get off to a bad start.

It could make Alex Williams, highly successful replacement for the now departed England goalkeeper Joe Corrigan, their busiest player once more.



Manchester City will depend greatly on young Steve Kinsey.



Cup hero Gary Stevens has already left Brighton for Spurs.

BRIGHTON

BRIGHTON'S achievement in reaching the F.A. Cup Final for the first time in their 83 year history was clouded by relegation from the First Division after four uneasy campaigns.

As they seek to reclaim lost status they must beware the backlash of finishing bottom.

Unless Brighton rediscover the path to goal they could well struggle in the Second Division. Their task of getting straight back up could also be made much harder should star players continue to leave.

Cup hero Gary Stevens' decision to join Spurs for £350,000 is a bitter blow to Brighton fans who had taken him to their hearts in the past three years.

And Stevens' departure could lead to others going. All this means Brighton could struggle next season.

While Brighton, under Jimmy Melia, produced a series of outstanding performances in the Cup, raising their game each time to fresh heights, they lacked staying power in the League.

Nine wins, and scoring a mere 38 goals, and averaging less than a point a game, was a serious

THIS WEEK First Div

19. Coventry	42
20. Man. City	42
21. Swansea	42
22. Brighton	42



Alex Williams

SWANSEA immediately delicately in this summer astute director who master progress to Division.

Having guided from the depths Division in a manager John pick up the re aware of the romance.

Two examples vanishing from Swansea's re in the Sixties almost as quick to the First.

More recent followed ex-Toshack is n avoiding.

So can Swansea be unable to ban impose

Melia face

By J. Bright

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THIS WEEK

First Division relegated

19. Coventry	42	13	9	20	48	59	48
20. Man. City	42	13	8	21	47	70	47
21. Swansea	42	10	11	21	51	69	41
22. Brighton	42	9	13	20	38	68	40



Alex Williams

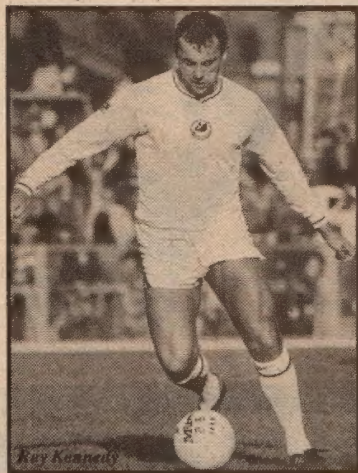
SWANSEA CITY'S
immediate future hangs
delicately in the balance
this summer still under the
astute direction of the man
who masterminded their
progress to the First
Division.

Having guided the Welsh club
from the depths of the Fourth
Division in a record four seasons,
manager John Toshack now has to
pick up the relegation pieces fully
aware of the dangers of a broken
romance.

Two examples of those
vanishing dreams haunt
Swansea's recovery. Northampton
in the Sixties went back down
almost as quickly as they came up
to the First.

More recently Bristol City
followed exactly the same route
Toshack is now charged with
avoiding.

So can Swansea, deep in debt,
unable to buy players because of a
ban imposed by the Football



Ray Kennedy

SWANSEA CITY

Toshack makes drastic changes

By JOHN BIRGUM

South Wales Evening Post

League, survive to build another
team capable of regaining that
First Division status and staying
around a little longer than two
seasons?

The task is enormous, not least
for Toshack's ability as a manager,
never previously brought into
question.

It's true, Swansea had more
than their share of problems
during 1982-83. An injury list
which sapped the strength of the
team and the loss in form of key
men Leighton James and Ray
Kennedy left morale at a low ebb.

The switch to youth brought a
temporary reprieve, but the
introduction of youngsters Chris
Sander, Darren Gale, Jimmy
Loveridge, Colin Pascoe, Dudley
Lewis and Gary Richards never
looked likely to prevent the
inevitable once the cracks began
to appear.

Of course, the experience they
gained is bound to prove
invaluable next season in a
Swansea side stripped of many
familiar faces.

Gone are Leighton James,
former Wales goalkeeper Dai
Davies, the long-serving Wyndham
Evans and Yugoslav defenders
Dzemal Hadziabdic and Ante
Rajkovic.

Club captain Robbie James
seems poised to leave as well,
after turning down a lucrative



John Toshack

three-year contract.

Swansea have already recruited
Chelsea defender Gary Chivers and
Cardiff City midfielder specialist Paul
Maddy on free transfers and
experienced goalkeeper Jimmy
Rimmer seems set to join.

But the key to Swansea's future,
at least over the next couple of
seasons, surely revolves around
the experience of Kennedy, top
marksman Bob Latchford, Wales
striker Alan Curtis and
record-signing Colin Irwin.

Swansea and Toshack have to
start again, pulling together the
threads and relying heavily on
experience. Without the response
of seasoned campaigners and a
winter reasonably free of injury the
club could again find itself
struggling.

Melia faces problems

By JOHN VINICOMBE
Brighton and Hove Gazette

Cup hero Gary Stevens' decision
to join Spurs for £350,000 is a
bitter blow to Brighton fans who
had taken him to their hearts in the
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And Stevens' departure could
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While Brighton, under Jimmy
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staying power in the League.

Nine wins, and scoring a mere 38
goals, and averaging less than a
point a game, was a serious

indictment of Brighton's strength.

The two managers who presided
over the team last term could not
have been greater opposites; the
quiet and undemonstrative Mike
Bailey, convinced his policy of
consolidation was right with the
meagre resources at his command,
and the effervescent Melia.

Suddenly promoted from chief
scout when Bailey left, he became
a noisy and unshakeable advocate
of attacking football.

No matter who was responsible,
and supporters are divided, the
League campaign was a disaster,
and but for the financial windfall
from the Cup and two visits to
Wembley, Brighton would be in
serious trouble.

Under Melia, Brighton won only
four out of 25 League games. Yet,
when Bailey left the Goldstone,
Brighton were 18th, and had taken
some hefty poundings.

Just four games had been won
in 17 and attendances dwindled to
10,000, 6,000 less than the required
break-even figure.

That the team had then scored
only 15 goals ultimately cost

Bailey his job.

Bailey, who had taken Brighton
to 13th the previous season,
strongly refuted the allegations,
but it was Melia who suddenly
found himself in charge.

His stock soared when Brighton
knocked Liverpool out of the Cup
at Anfield.

No matter how stridently Melia
scoffed at the possibility of
relegation, there was a growing
belief that Brighton had become all
too wrapped-up in the Cup.

The lure of glory swept them
along quite giddily, but, with very
few exceptions, the players were
unable to motivate themselves
with the same zeal for bread 'n
butter games.

NEXT WEEK: Q.P.R. Wolves
Leicester.

Steve, unsung hero

GLENN Hoddle has hogged most of the headlines in the great public debate over which club the Spurs and England star should join to further his career.

Tottenham fans are rightly concerned about the future of their club's midfield star, but perhaps a thought should be spared for one of the White Hart Lane squad who seems certain to play a lesser role than before, and might even be faced with the prospect of finding a new club.

The arrival of £350,000 Gary Stevens from Brighton, and £250,000 Danny Thomas from Coventry, who just happens to play in Perryman's right-back position, could hustle the Spurs captain's departure from a scene he has graced for 14 years.

No current First Division player has a more distinguished record in the League than Perryman.

SHOOT view!

He has never had the skill to reach the heights scaled by the brilliant Hoddle, but in terms of service to the club over a much longer period, he has contributed more than his team-mate.

When the chips were down, it was Perryman who rallied his men to rise to the demands of the moment.

When Spurs were coasting 2-0 up, it was Perryman who made sure that they maintained the pressure.

When a Spurs defender became hot-headed and threatened to lose his composure, it was Perryman who cooled him down and told him to get on with the job.

And when it came to tackling, running and distribution, no player tries harder than the Spurs skipper.

If he leaves White Hart Lane, his departure will be felt with the same sense of loss as the exit of Dave Mackay, one of the great Spurs double winning heroes.

Not all careers can be measured solely in international caps, transfer fees, and banner headlines.

THE SUMMER SHOCK



Martin Buchan (left) and Mike Channon (above) have both been handed free transfers.

MARTIN Buchan, George Wood and John Devine have two things in common, all three are international footballers and all three received the game's dreaded farewell this summer, a free transfer.

It is difficult to believe that players of such calibre are now deemed surplus to requirements, but this summer has provided a series of shattering blows for some of football's best-known names.

The Football League's official list of free transfers — dated forward to July 31 — reveals that no fewer

than 375 professionals have been released since the end of last season.

This represents an average of 4.09 players per club, and while the likes of Preston, who have released a frightening total of 18 players, and Chesterfield, who have given frees to 11, grossly exceed that average, it balances out with the likes of Leicester, Stoke and Brighton, who have released only one player, and Notts County and Aston Villa who, according to the League, have kept their staffs intact.

Clearly, the warnings of recent years have become all too costly realities. Clubs can no longer afford large playing staffs, incurring large w they afford vastly fees.

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Not long ago th Manchester Unite captain Martin B George Wood an and Liverpool's s Fairclough, woul fee in the market.

But Football '83 can have them fo A glance at the

Free transfers from the top two divisions

DIVISION ONE

ARSENAL
John Devine, Mark Gerbaldi, John Hawley, John Hollins, Paul Vaessen, George Wood.

BIRMINGHAM
Frank Carrodus, Duncan MacDowall, Derek McKay, Jeff Wealands, Nigel Winterburn.

COVENTRY
Steve Mardenborough.

EVERTON
Alan Ainscow, Mark Leonard, John McMahon, Trevor Ross, Keith Tierney, Mike Walsh, Billy Wright.

IPSWICH
Ian Hurrell, Jimmy King, Ian Templeton.

LEICESTER
Dave Buchanan.

LIVERPOOL
David Fairclough, Tony Kelly, Ronnie Kilshaw, Peter King.

MAN. UTD.
Martin Buchan, Tony Whelan, David Wynn.

NORWICH
Phil Alexander, Mike Channon, David Lovett, Peter Mountford, Richard Symonds.

NOTTM. FOREST
Einar Aas, Patrick Lundy, Nigel Thrower.

DPR
Ian Muir, Dean Wilkins.

SOUTHAMPTON
Jeremy Stagg, Peter Wells.

STOKE
Cliff Wallace.

SUNDERLAND
Mike Buckley, Patrick O'Donnell, Barry War-drobe, Mike Whitfield.

TOTTENHAM
Pat Corbett, John Lacy, Georgio Mazzon, Ricardo Villa.

WATFORD
Ross Jenkins.

WBA
Andrew Lacey, Martin Pike, John Wile.

WEST HAM
Chris Ampofo, Glenn Burvill, George Cowie, Jimmy Neighbour, Alf Wright.

WOLVES
Tony Kernan, Stephen Pugh.

DIVISION TWO

BARNLEY
Stewart Barrowclough, John Bukovina, Ernie Heseltine, Dave Longden, Gary Pierce, Don Souter, Ronnie Wakefield, Philip Watkin.

BLACKBURN
Gary Butcher, Paul Comstive, Donal Murphy, Mike Salmon.

BRIGHTON
Danny Deans.

CAMBRIDGE
Richard Key, Joe Mayo, Streete, Graham Wats.

CARDIFF
Paul Maddy, Paul G Hatton, Ron Healey.

CARLISLE
Jonathan Rush.

CHARLTON
Leroy Ambrose, Steve Mark Simpson, Phil W.

CHELSEA
Gary Chivers, Phil Drive Paul Williams.

C. PALACE
Paul Baxter, Ian Edwa Steve Howe, Chris Jo

DERBY
Paul Emson, Frank G

FULHAM
Clive Day, Mike Squir

GRIMSBY
Phil Crosby, Kevin Klr

HUDDERSFIELD
Martin Coupe, Tim Ho

THE LATEST SIGNINGS

WHILE the general trend is definitely one of careful spending and little movement within the transfer market, a handful of summer signings have raised some eyebrows and excited many fans.

But now that clubs are even more fussy about declaring what they pay for players we prefer not to guess and name only those fees widely quoted.

Top of the list must be Arsenal's coup in pipping much-fancied Manchester United and League Champions Liverpool for the signature of 51-goal Charlie Nicholas from Celtic.

The 21-year-old Scottish international striker's decision to sign for

the North London club has swung the spotlight away from local rivals Spurs who captured the nation's imagination when they signed Argentinian stars Ossie Ardiles and Ricky Villa after the 1978 World Cup.

Aston Villa, too, are hogging the limelight in the Midlands. They completed Liverpool's misery by persuading Everton's Steve McMahon and Swindon hot-shot Paul Rideout to move to Villa Park, despite strong bids for both players from Anfield.

Brian Clough was furious when John Robertson moved up the road to Derby County and Peter Taylor, but has strengthened his Nottingham Forest defence by signing Paul Hart from Leeds United. Leeds spent the reported

£60,000 fee on Andy Watson from Aberdeen.

After haggling over the fee, the transfer tribunal decided Portsmouth had to pay Coventry £190,000 for Mark Hateley.

He is prepared to gamble on dropping out of the First Division to achieve long-term success with the ambitious Hampshire club.

Everton spent £300,000 to bring young midfielder Trevor Steven to Goodison Park as manager Howard Kendall strives to build a Championship team.

While Nicholas was leaving Glasgow to make a new career in England, Ally McCoist made the return to his native Scotland and Glasgow Rangers for a reported £180,000.

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game's few remaining cavalier characters, makes the long journey through the League, moving from Sunderland to Southampton.

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CASH TRANSFERS FROM JULY

Player	From	To
Charlie Nicholas	Celtic	Arsenal
Gary Stevens	Brighton	Spurs
Trevor Steven	Burnley	Everton
Ally McCoist	Sunderland	Rangers
Kevin Reeves	Man. City	Burnley
Les Sealey	Coventry	Luton
Ian Banks	Barnsley	Leicester
Pat Nevin	Clyde	Chelsea
Joe McLaughlin	Morton	Chelsea
Andy Watson	Aberdeen	Leeds
Ken Armstrong	Kilmarnock	Southampton
Frank Worthington	Sunderland	Southampton
Mark Hateley	Coventry	Portsmouth
Danny Thomas	Coventry	Spurs
Paul Bracewell	Stoke	Sunderland
Dave Bamber	Blackpool	Coventry

SUMMER SHOCKERS

David Fairclough, Dennis Tueart, Martin Buchan and George Wood are four top players given shock free transfers this summer.

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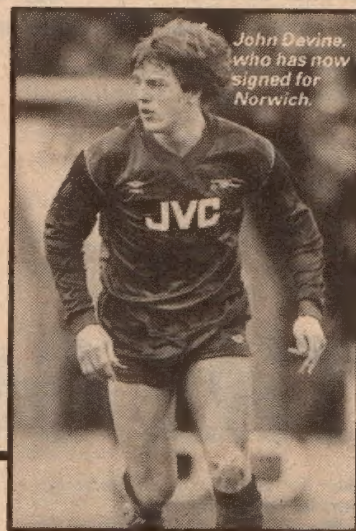
incurring large wage bills, nor can they afford vastly inflated transfer fees.

And the great collapse of the transfer market has led to many clubs finding their assets of 12 months ago — expensive signings — devalued like Italian lire and simply impossible to sell for anywhere near what they cost.

Not long ago the likes of Manchester United and Scotland captain Martin Buchan; Arsenal's George Wood and John Devine and Liverpool's 'supersub' David Fairclough, would have cost a fair fee in the market.

But Football '83 decrees that you can have them for... NOTHING.

A glance at the list will surprise



you, even shock you.

Everton have released Trevor Ross, Alan Ainscow and Billy Wright among their departees; Fairclough goes from Anfield, Mike Channon leaves Norwich, John Lacy says farewell to Spurs and Watford part company with Ross Jenkins.

Outside the First Division are a host of equally famous names on the game's scrapheap.

Cardiff's thank you to Bob Hatton for lifting them into the Second Division is a free transfer; Ian Edwards, whose goal against Burnley kept Crystal Palace in Division Two, gets the same; John Ryan and Dennis Tueart leave Manchester City, David Shearer and Joe Bolton get the axe at Middlesbrough and Newcastle chop Mick Martin and John Craggs.

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CHELSEA
Gary Chivers, Phil Driver, Bob Iles, Alan Mayes, Paul Williams.

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FULHAM
Clive Day, Mike Squire, Fernando Varadi.

GRIMSBY
Phil Crosby, Kevin Kilmore.

HUDDERSFIELD
Martin Coupe, Tim Hotte, Peter Valentine.

LEEDS
Wayne Roebuck, Jim Sharkey, Steve Taylor, Colin Thacker.

MAN. CITY
Age Hereide, Michael Queenan, John Ryan, Dennis Tueart, Robin Webb.

MIDDLESBROUGH
Mike Angus, Joe Bolton, Wayne Earnshaw, Francis Harrison, Phil Lloyd, David McClurg, Alan Roberts, David Shearer, Tony Young.

NEWCASTLE
David Barton, Derek Bell, John Craggs, Nick Devereux, Paul Malcolm, Mick Martin, Justin Robson, David Thompson, David Willis, Chris Witte.

OLDHAM
Ged Keegan, Steve Millington, John Murphy.

SHEFF. WED.
Richard Beaumont, Robert Kenney, Gordon Owen, Chris Riley.

SHREWSBURY
Carlton Leonard, Martin Sankey.

SWANSEA
Wyndham Evans.

Returned

Some of these players either have or will find new clubs. George Wood has gone to Palace, John Hollins has returned to Chelsea, John Wile has become player-manager of Peterborough, Billy Wright has signed for Birmingham and John Devine begins a new career at Norwich.

But for the vast majority it's the end of their professional football careers, leaving for the tough nuts and bolts football of the non-League game or a desperate bid to find employment during a recession.

Surely now, football will learn that only by careful budgeting and sensible wages and player-prices can it survive the modern economic climate.

SIGNINGS

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The skilful striker and former England international believes that Lawrie McMenemy will give him a new lease of life and the freedom in an attacking team to express his undoubted ability.

Otherwise it has been a quiet summer, with clubs preferring to study the free transfer list, and select possible additions to their squads, knowing they are in strong bargaining positions.

Many players face the choice of playing for lower wages than they were receiving or not playing in the League at all.

CASH TRANSFERS FROM JUNE 1

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Charlie Nicholas	Celtic	Arsenal	£750,000
Gary Stevens	Brighton	Spurs	£350,000
Trevor Steven	Burnley	Everton	£300,000
Ally McCoist	Sunderland	Rangers	£180,000
Kevin Reeves	Man. City	Burnley	£125,000
Les Sealey	Coventry	Luton	£120,000
Ian Banks	Barnsley	Leicester	£100,000
Pat Nevin	Clyde	Chelsea	£100,000
Joe McLaughlin	Morton	Chelsea	£90,000
Andy Watson	Aberdeen	Leeds	£60,000
Ken Armstrong	Kilmarnock	Southampton	£60,000
Frank Worthington	Sunderland	Southampton	£25,000
Mark Hateley	Coventry	Portsmouth	£190,000
Danny Thomas	Coventry	Spurs	£250,000
Paul Bracewell	Stoke	Sunderland	£250,000
Dave Bamber	Blackpool	Coventry	£50,000

End of an era?

THE invasion of England by foreign footballers appears to be at an end.

After a short but explosive period during which it became cheaper to sign Dutch, Yugoslavian, Scandinavian and South American players than buy a player from another League club, the feared invasion has turned into an exodus.

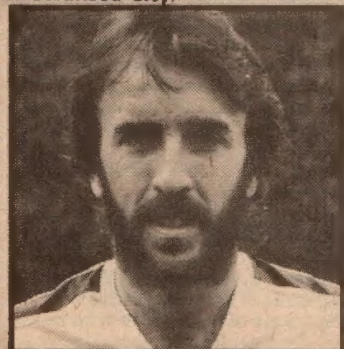
Ricky Villa (right) left Spurs for Fort Lauderdale in the United States, Frans Thijssen left Ipswich for Vancouver Whitecaps and Vladimir Petrovic was released by Arsenal and will certainly go home to Belgrade.

Elsewhere we find that Claudio Marangoni, formerly with Sunderland, and Alex Sabella, once of Leeds and Sheffield United, are now named in the Argentinian national side despite the fact that a few years ago they failed to impress in English football and often looked very ordinary.

No doubt a trickle of foreign

players will still come to these shores, but overall the trend has reversed.

Other notable imports unlikely to be seen in English football again include Adam Musial of Hereford, Yakka Banovic of Derby County, Ivan Golac of Southampton, Francois Van der Elst of West Ham United and both Ante Rajkovic and Dzemal Hadziabdic of Swansea City.



Now the stars discuss the summer's most exciting transfer deal in a three-page special on Arsenal new-boy Charlie Nicholas

TONY Woodcock carried a huge burden on his 27-year-old shoulders last season, and came through with flying colours.

Arsenal paid Cologne £500,000 for the England striker this time last year and the former Nottingham Forest star repaid them with 21 goals.

The North London club ended a frustrating season of transition without anything to show for a lot of hard work and two major Semi-Finals. The fans and critics howled about negative play, lack of sparkle and no sign of their team replacing Liam Brady and Frank Stapleton.

But Woodcock managed to produce a top-class haul despite having to form a variety of striking partnerships as Terry Neill and Don Howe experimented in an effort to get their side firing on all cylinders.

Rewarded

Now, Woodcock is to be rewarded... by teaming up with the most exciting player to emerge from Scotland since Denis Law.

Charlie Nicholas, 21, brash and gifted, hammered 51 goals for Celtic last season.

When Arsenal entered the race for his signature, few people gave them much hope of succeeding. Nicholas, by his own admission, preferred Manchester United, while League Champions Liverpool were waiting in the wings.

But Nicholas eventually chose Arsenal and now looks forward to teaming up with one of the most mobile, skilful and experienced front-runners in European football, and providing him with a

considerable goal-boost by drawing away defenders.

Woodcock, a key member of Brian Clough's magnificent Nottingham Forest team that won the League Championship in 1978, the League Cup in 1978 and 1979, and the European Cup in 1979,

later honed his skills in the tough Bundesliga with Cologne.

Man-to-man marking made him aware of space, speed off the mark and accurate passing. So when afforded the extra room of zonal marking in the First Division he punished defences consistently.

Yet Woodcock recalled the differences between the game in Germany and the English game, factors that will also prove important to Nicholas.

"The game in England is faster and sometimes more unpredictable. Here I make runs into space and hope that the ball arrives at the right time and the right pace. In Germany it was played to feet or delivered precisely because you had very little time to lose a man-to-man marker before he caught up with you."

Arsenal already possess players capable of delivering accurate and incisive passes — Graham Rix, Paul Davis and Kenny Sansom to name three — and with the

WOODCOCK WELCOMES THE GOAL-MACHINE



Woodcock goes it alone against Tottenham last season.

CHAMPAGNE Charlie Nicholas. That's what the Press call Arsenal's new £750,000 striker.

He's just 21, single, and can look forward to a glittering and prosperous future.

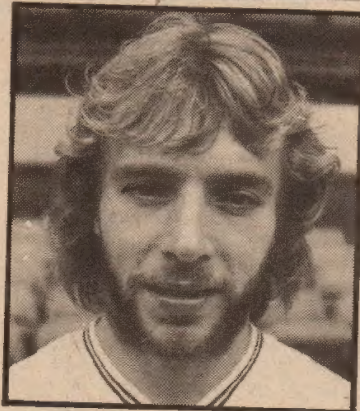
Just three years ago I made the same exciting journey to London when transferred from Aberdeen to Spurs for approximately the same amount of money.

If the market madness had continued to flourish I suppose Charlie would have commanded a price tag approaching two million.

Coming South can be an exciting and rewarding journey for any young Scot.

But it can also be full of dangers for the unwary, the publicity-blitzed players unable to handle the bright London lights and glare of instant fame.

When I first arrived at White Hart Lane, I must say I was very suspicious of the people who made me lots of offers and promised me



the world.

All of a sudden I was surrounded by new "friends", often wealthy, who invited me to go here, there and everywhere.

But I refused most of the offers and invitations, preferring to concentrate 100 per cent on my game.

I knew if I didn't make an impact

STEVE ARCHIBALD SAYS

'Beware of the bright lights'

those same "friends" would be the first to turn their backs and criticise.

Luckily, I scored 25 goals in my first season at Spurs and won the adidas Golden Boot so my philosophy paid off.

The pressure on Charlie will be enormous. With his goalscoring reputation the fans will expect him

to play a blinder and produce the goods every week.

Some team-mates might even be jealous and resent Charlie grabbing the limelight. Opposing defenders certainly won't do him any favours.

I hope Charlie has good people looking after his interests.

History is full of players who

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All smiles as Neill finally gets £750,000, Charlie going to have goals to justify

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Charlie Nicholas

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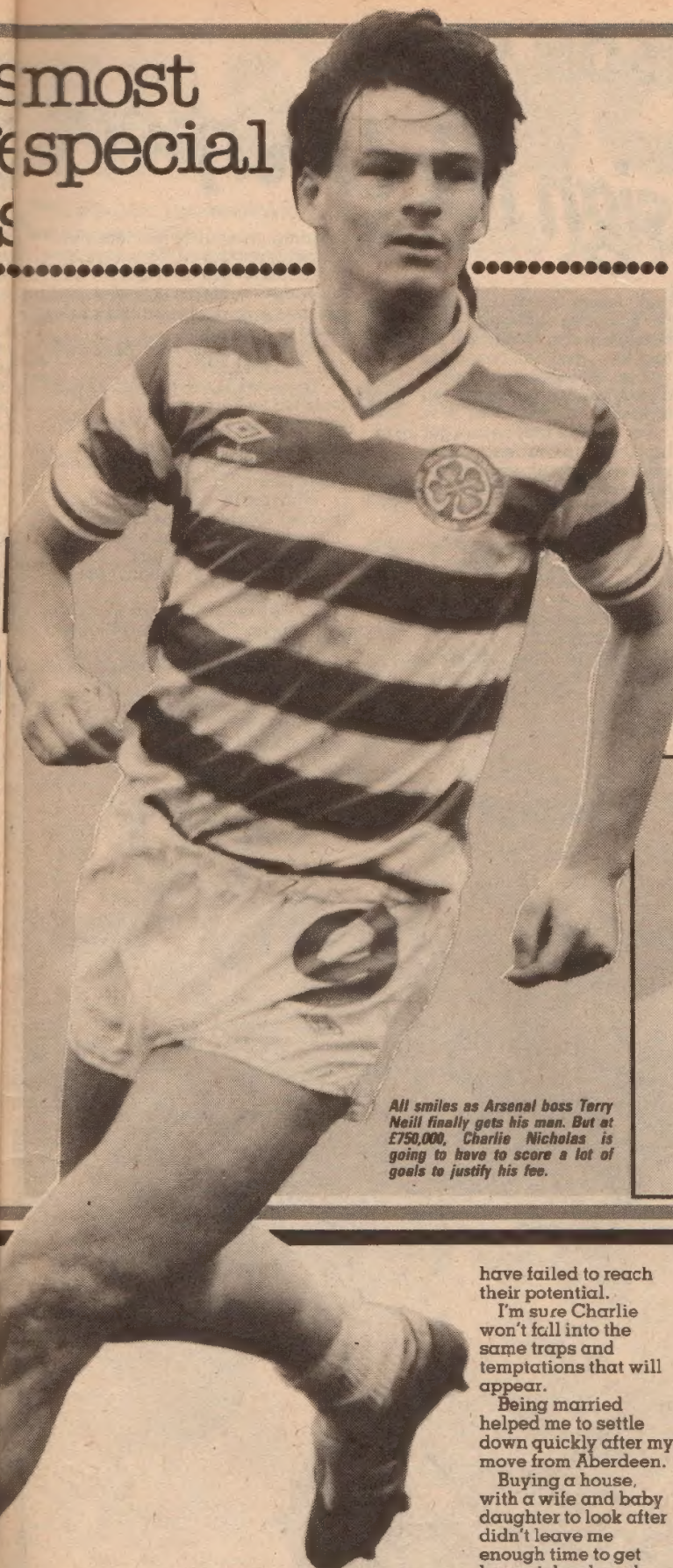
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All smiles as Arsenal boss Terry Neill finally gets his man. But at £750,000, Charlie Nicholas is going to have to score a lot of goals to justify his fee.

instinctive positional sense of Nicholas and the experience and guile of Woodcock providing ideal targets, Arsenal will now have a formidable spearhead, particularly as Liam Brady could also be coming back to Highbury.

Nicholas will require help in his early games, a watchful eye to ensure that he does not try too hard to impress and suffer as a result.

Woodcock knows all about such pressure after winning over the fans in Cologne and then making those Highbury fans who bemoaned the loss of Stapleton accept him in a matter of weeks.

He is also an expert at forming partnerships.

"At Forest I played alongside Peter Withe, whose aerial ability gave me a great opportunity to feed off him in and around the box, and Garry Birtles, a very different type of forward," he said.

And at Highbury he has already been partnered by Alan Sunderland, Lee Chapman, Graham Rix, Brian McDermott, John Hawley, Raphael Meade and Vladimir Petrovic.

All different in style and approach as well as experience. Yet Woodcock found the net week after week.

Imagine the possibilities if he

can forge a strong and regular partnership with the dynamic young Glaswegian whose personal form rocketed back to impressive once he had made up his mind who to join and abandoned all the inevitable worries about his future.

Watching Woodcock taking a ball at his feet under pressure from defenders, holding them off, laying the ball back or turning his marker, outpacing people in and around the box and shooting with either foot, it is exciting just to think of the chaos Arsenal can create if Nicholas *does* get the free role he played with Celtic and which he has been promised by Neill and Howe.

Perhaps the two strikers best sum up the coming campaign.

Woodcock: "It promises to be very exciting. Given a little time to adjust, we can really produce some tremendous moments."

Nicholas: "I believe in my ability to score goals and the players already at Highbury were among my reasons for joining Arsenal."

If Arsenal's renowned defensive discipline and accepted organisation can be allied to the flair and unpredictable skills of Woodcock and Nicholas then the First Division will be in for a testing time.



have failed to reach their potential.

I'm sure Charlie won't fall into the same traps and temptations that will appear.

Being married helped me to settle down quickly after my move from Aberdeen.

Buying a house, with a wife and baby daughter to look after didn't leave me enough time to get homesick or bored.

The danger starts when a young player, hundreds of miles from his family and friends, has to spend long hours alone in hotel rooms.

They go out just to relieve the boredom and for some company.

Don't get me wrong. I enjoy a full social life and having a good time. But having a family has helped me to act responsibly and get my priorities right.

to play a blinder and produce the goods every week.

Some team-mates might even be jealous and resent Charlie grabbing the limelight. Opposing defenders certainly won't do him any favours.

I hope Charlie has good people looking after his interests.

History is full of players who

Charlie is no mug. He had a tough-up-bringing in Glasgow, has played for one of the world's top clubs and is used to big crowds and adulation from the fans.

I don't know whether he was right or wrong to leave Celtic. Only Charlie can answer that. Maybe he would have benefited from another year in the Premier Division. Who can tell?

But he'd made up his mind to move and stuck to his decision. That proves he has confidence in his own ability and the courage to stand by his convictions.

I'm sure Charlie is aware of the pitfalls and will be a hit at Highbury and in the First Division.

His goalscoring ability is no fluke. He's scored at every level and has nothing to prove.

Charlie has good control, can wrong foot opponents, is cool inside the box and has an explosive shot.

In fact, he's one of the most exciting talents to come out of

Scotland.

Coming South made me a better player.

The Football League contains a far greater number of good sides, there's more variation in team play and less tackling from behind.

It is a test of consistency for a player.

I doubt Charlie will score anything like the 51 goals he hammered for Celtic last season, but certainly the First Division will be a challenge and can establish him as a world class player.

I wish Charlie every success at Arsenal.

● Nicholas is 'scared'. Read Phil Thompson, page 8.

Steve Archibald



PHIL THOMPSON SAYS 'He was scared to sign for Liverpool'

JOINING Liverpool, the most successful club in Britain, must be the burning ambition of hundreds of players — yet this close season five have turned down the chance and chosen other clubs instead.

Charlie Nicholas will be wearing an Arsenal shirt next season, Paul Rideout will be with Aston Villa, and so will Steve McMahon. Michael Laudrup has gone to Italy and Trevor Steven has decided to move to Everton.

Five great prospects who had been specially selected by my bosses at Liverpool as measuring up to our high standards.

So why did every one of them give Liverpool the thumbs down? I can think of only one answer. They were scared!

Overawed by Liverpool's reputation, they couldn't see themselves holding down a regular place in a team where the competition is always red-hot.

Opportunity

I was surprised at their lack of confidence in themselves. Liverpool don't pay out big money for players to be slotted into the reserves. They're always given plenty of opportunity to show their paces and establish themselves in the first team.

To be fair to those lads who got away, though, they may have been partly influenced by football writers who painted a very different picture of Liverpool.

There's no denying that missing out on signing Charlie and the others has been a big disappointment for our new manager, Joe Fagan, but they'll be the losers in the long run.

All young players, they would have learnt more at Liverpool than with the other clubs they've chosen.

They may win the occasional trophy, but they'd be on a conveyor belt with us, ending every season with at least one winner's medal to add to their collection.

And with Liverpool always strongly involved in several competitions, our players also stand a greater chance of being first choices for their countries.

I've a feeling that one day in the future, Charlie and company will be kicking themselves for making the biggest mistake of their lives in not coming to Anfield.

They've left the way open for other players, because the club isn't going to give up the hunt for

new talent and are determined to add to the present squad. The boss doesn't want a repetition of the situation at the end of last season when injuries forced us to play men who weren't fully fit, myself included.

This time the club won't make it so clear who they've fixed their sights on. They'll be more cloak and dagger, keeping negotiations secret until they've got their men.

Right now someone who's name I can only guess at could be signing for us on the dotted line.

Maybe Paul Walsh from Luton, a fine player in the making as he's shown in his first season in the First Division and England's tour of Australia.

Paul is a deceptive player in

many ways, a real surprise packet. For someone so slightly-built, he's strong enough to take the hardest knocks — and hand out a few in return. I should know. I found him a real handful when I played against him.

For a small lad, he can get up to high balls to challenge lanky centre-halves like me. Paul reminds me very much of Ian St. John, a former Kop idol now a TV presenter.

Another Liverpool target could be Gary Lineker, the Leicester City goalscorer. Although he has just signed a new three-year contract, he could be tempted away from Filbert Street.

The midfield department will also be strengthened by one

signing, as well as the defence, although this is our lowest priority.

There are no plans to release anyone — and that includes me, despite any reports you may have read to the contrary.

No club has made an approach for my services!

The newspaper story that I was wanted by Portsmouth, newly-promoted from the Third Division as Champions, was complete make-believe, with not a word of truth in it.

What really got the Thompson temper steamed up was the suggestion that I was available because I was no longer commanding a first team place with Liverpool.

There are 15 other players in the same boat. No one at this moment can say he'll definitely be in the team that kicks off our opening game next season.

It's my ambition to carry on winning things with Liverpool for a long time to come!



I'm sure that Charlie Nicholas will one day regret turning down Liverpool in order to sign for Arsenal.

Phil Thompson

FAN V

CLUBS are increasingly aware of the importance of looking after their fans and many are busy creating fresh facilities for next season.

Manchester United, who have been the best supported team for years, are spending more than £½ million on their Old Trafford Ground.

The F.A. Cup winners have 80 private boxes, 45 of which are being re-furnished, while the executive suite restaurant is being fitted with more windows which will enable supporters to watch while they eat. Undersoil heating is being installed at a cost of £70,000 which will bring them into line with other major clubs such as **Arsenal** and **Everton**.



Notts County are installing ten boxes and, to facilitate the admittance of fans to Meadow Lane, new turnstiles will be available.

Elsewhere in the First Division **Aston Villa** are spending around £50,000 to help visiting supporters and, at the same time hopefully cut down the threat of hooliganism.

A car park is being built alongside the rear of the North stand which will mean that fans need only walk 20 yards from their coaches to get into the ground.

"Most of the crowd trouble starts when people are walking between coach and ground," says Villa secretary, Steve Stride. "This should reduce the danger considerably."

In East Anglia, **Norwich** are following in the footsteps of several clubs, notably **Watford** who have family enclosures at

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FAN WORSHIP!

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- Video playback screen
- Kids enclosures
- Hospitality rooms
- Private boxes
- Car parks

youngsters can get closer to their heroes next season in a new enclosure by the tunnel.

A part of the Ford stand at **Oldham's** Boundary Park ground is being set aside for the club's younger supporters, the 'Junior Latics', who will be looked after by special stewards. Family car parks and TV lounges are also being constructed.

Lancashire neighbours **Bolton**, who were relegated to Division Three last season, have had to spend £9,000 on their Burnden stand, damaged by fans after the final home game against Chelsea.



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Elsewhere in the First Division **Aston Villa** are spending around £50,000 to help visiting supporters and, at the same time hopefully cut down the threat of hooliganism.

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In East Anglia, **Norwich** are following in the footsteps of several clubs, notably **Watford** who have family enclosures at

Arsenal fans could be watching the goals of Tony Woodcock in action replay at Highbury next season.

their grounds.

The Junior "Canaries" club at Carrow Road will now have their own section, to which adults will not be admitted unless accompanied by a child. For a father and one child, it will now be cheaper to sit than stand.

"The club will encourage the players to go over to this enclosure from time to time and give gifts to the youngsters," explains club spokesman Nigel Pleasants.

Coventry, who have an all-seater stadium, are re-opening a small section of Highfield Road as a standing area for 2,000 people on a membership basis.

Stoke and **Luton** are making alterations which will not be immediately evident to many of their supporters. Luton are allocating £10,000 to hospitality suites for visiting directors and

Stoke are re-furbishing their dressing rooms.

In the Second Division, **Derby** are making structural alterations because of last season's crowd trouble in the matches involving Leeds and Chelsea. £35,000 is being spent on better segregation arrangements and visiting fans will also be allocated 1,600 extra seats in the Osmaston stand.

On Humberside, **Grimsby**, not one of the League's richer clubs, are spending £250,000 on the second phase of the Findus Family stand, which includes 12 executive boxes, a lounge for vice-presidents and administrative offices. The club are also opening up part of the Harrington stand, with an admission of only 80p for children under 12.

Sheffield Wednesday are putting in more turnstiles at the Penistone Road end. Up in the North East, **Newcastle** prepare for more Kevin Keegan euphoria by erecting a perimeter fence around the pitch, while **Middlesbrough**

Despite this expense, prices are coming down by 24 per cent for children in the family 'Great Lever' stand.

Arsenal hope to instal a giant video screen at the Clock End of their Highbury ground for the start of next season at a cost of around £1m.

They have applied for planning permission to Islington council. The screen would show various features, including match action replays, team news information, interviews with players and possibly advertisements for match sponsors.

Never have innovatory ideas been more needed than at the present time when soccer faces growing competition from rival forms of entertainment. League attendances have fallen from 40 million in 1950 to half that number and if clubs are to survive they must give spectator comfort greater priority in their short-term planning.

At least our survey shows that the message is not going unheeded around the country.

FOOTBALL FUNNIES

"Because you're always out of position..."



"I don't know of any other substitute who's broken his leg while warming up."



"Do you remember that full-back you sent-off last season?"



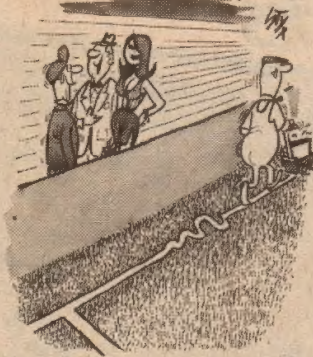
"At least wait until I've started the game."



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"Coach, I'd like you to meet the chairman's daughter."



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Aston Villa



***** **NIES** *****

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"Do you remember that full-back you sent-off last season?"



"At least wait until I've started the game."



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GARY SHAW Aston Villa



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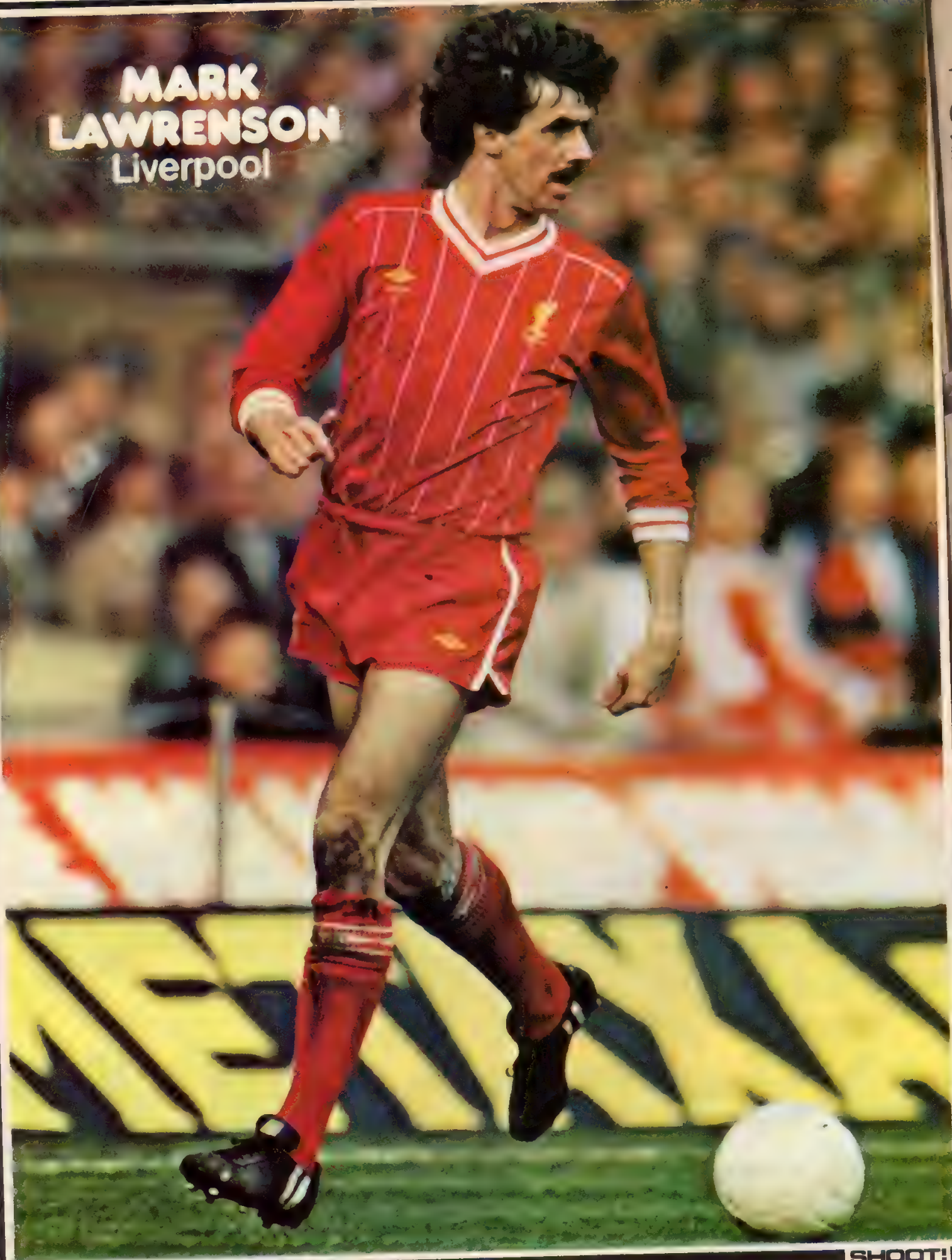
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Liverpool



SHOOT!

TARTAN TALK

Every week
one of Scotland's
top stars

CONSISTENCY with Celtic, a regular place with Scotland and an injury-free run... those are my main priorities in the new season.

Last term was interrupted by a series of niggling knocks and injuries and I never got into my stride although, thankfully, I still did enough to persuade

Scotland manager Jock Stein into calling me into his British Championship squad and also the pool that travelled to Canada for the three games against our hosts.

It was a great experience to be with the international team and I suppose it helped take my mind off the disappointments of last season with Celtic, the club I would die for.

At one stage we looked set for the Grand Slam. The League Cup was already in the bag after our 2-1 victory over old rivals Rangers in November at Hampden.

We were leading the League by a few points from both Aberdeen and Dundee United and we got through to the Scottish Cup Semi-Finals.

And then, totally unexpected, the roof caved in on us. Up until the turn of the year we had dropped only three League points. But something unpredictable

NOBBY

THERE'S ONE BIG SNAG ABOUT BEING FAMOUS



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Every week featuring one of Scotland's top stars

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But something unpredictable

happened to our form after the crossover into '83. We started giving away points. Dundee, for instance, drew 2-2 with us at Parkhead and even beat us 2-1 later in the season at Dens Park.

Motherwell beat us 2-1 at Fir Park and other points were given away. It wasn't a question of easing up. Our then manager Billy McNeill wouldn't have stood for that.

We just lost our rhythm and couldn't recapture it. I was in and out of the team through injury and it was so frustrating. Anyway, there's no point in crying about it now, but last season's failure — and there is no other word for it — will make us all more determined in the new term to go out and play with the consistency that is associated with Celtic.

his spectacular goalscoring feats, but a lot of other players contributed to that success and the many wins that came our way.

Frank McGarvey, for instance, did an awful lot of hard work last season and I'm certain Charlie would be the first to give credit to his fellow-striking partner.

Roy Aitken — another Celt to be involved in the recent international squad — played consistently well and Graeme Sinclair slotted in extremely well after his transfer from Dumbarton.

Many other players contributed so much, but, sadly, the rewards were not there at the end of the season. I'm just hoping to stay clear of injury and, at 26, take on more responsibility and lead the

I'D DIE FOR CELTIC' says Tommy Burns

club to greater glories.

Paul McStay, so mature for a teenager, will be even better after his first season in the team and I would also like to take this opportunity of welcoming another teenager to Parkhead — Brian McClair, the club's recent £100,000 signing from Motherwell.

Improve

On the international scene, I would like to play in two successive games, something I haven't managed yet. It's a bit like the Glenn Hoddle situation with England. I'm certain my play at this level would improve if I could string a few games together.

But that's entirely up to me. I know Jock Stein is a fair man. He signed me for Celtic when I was a youngster and he gave me my first team opportunity as a teenager. I know if I provide the goods for Celtic the rest will, hopefully, follow.

The Cup was lost when Peter Weir nodded in the only goal of the game at Hampden and again we had a giant slice of completely bad luck.

Our defence was convinced that Eric Black had handled the ball before sending over his cross.

All credit to Dundee United and Aberdeen, I don't want to take anything away from their successes in the League and the Cup, but, naturally enough, my main priority is to Celtic and the club's fans and we have to iron out any flaws before the new season.

We'll be without Charlie Nicholas, of course, and everyone at Parkhead was sorry to see him go. He's a chirpy chap with bundles of confidence and we all wish him well with Arsenal.

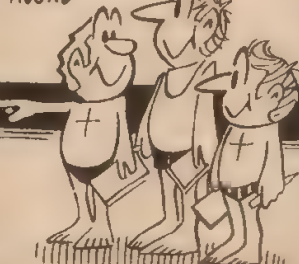
However, football is not a one-man show. Charlie took most of the headlines last season with

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ASK THE EXPERT

Ernie's career

My great-uncle was Ernie Blenkinsop, who used to play for Sheffield Wednesday. Can you tell me about his career?

DAWN JENKINS, FAVERHAM

As they say, Dawn, he could certainly play a bit. 26 times for England, in fact — several of them as captain.

As one of the best and most stylish left-backs between the Wars, he joined Wednesday from Hull in 1922 and played around 400 games for the club in the next 12 years before moving on to Liverpool for another five seasons. His long career ended with one season at Cardiff in 1937-38.

Boxing father

Is it true that the father of Dave Sexton was a professional boxer?

OLABISI OSINUBI, NIGERIA

Certainly is, Olabisi and, what's more, he helped to make a little spot of boxing history.

NOW — TRY TO BEAT THE EXPERT

ANDREW REES of Johannesburg comes up with an intriguing query this week.

"Which current Football League player made his debut for his first and second League clubs against his third and fourth League clubs respectively?" he asks.

Andrew adds: "Bet you can't get it!" — and I couldn't.

At least not until I checked on the answer he gave in John Hawley, whose first League game was for Hull against his third club, Sunderland, on 21st

For Archie Sexton, a well-known professional welterweight and middleweight between 1926 and 1936, took part in the first boxing to appear on a television screen anywhere in the world.

It was an exhibition bout, specially staged at Broadcasting House in London on 22nd August, 1933, to demonstrate to high-ups of the "new" industry — the world's first public TV service from the BBC was still 3¼ years off — how a small screen could cope with what they termed "rapid and unpredictable movements."

In front of the cameras, Sexton boxed several demonstration rounds with a fellow-Londoner named Lauri Raiteri.

SHORT PASSES

Kevin Keegan was European Footballer of the Year, while with SV Hamburg, in 1978 and 1979.

(YUSOP ISMAIL, East Malaysia)

Everton's record win is 11-2 (v. Derby, F.A. Cup; 18th January, 1890). Their record home gate is 78,299 (v. Liverpool; Division One; 18th September, 1948).

(WILLIAM TENG, West Malaysia)

The Liverpool team which beat Newcastle 3-0 in the 1974 F.A. Cup Final was: Clemence, Smith, Lindsay, Thompson, Cormack, Hughes, Keegan, Hall, Heighway, Toshack and Callaghan. Sub: Lawler.

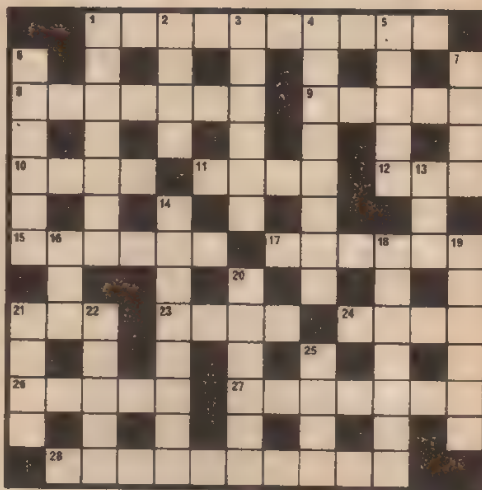
(LIBBY ONG, West Malaysia)

April, 1973.

Hawley's second club was Leeds, and he made his debut for them against Arsenal (his fourth club) on 19th August, 1978.

Every week we give you the opportunity to put the Expert on the spot by firing at him a question you believe he can't answer. Enclose a separate envelope with the answer. If he has to open it, you win £5!

SHOOT! CROSSWORD



ACROSS:—

- (1) Manager of the Year.
- (8) They have only won the F.A. Cup once, beating Leeds 2-1 in 1969/70. (7)
- (9) — Park; ground of Rangers. (5)
- (10) Nick Pickle —, a professional footballer. (4)
- (11) "Object of admiration" from the initial letters of Orient, Luton, Ipswich and Derby. (4)
- (12) Alders —, Fourth Division club from the Recreation Ground. (3)
- (15) David Arm —, Southampton midfielder. (6)
- (17) Ars — (Div. I) and — — — (Div. II). English League clubs. (6)
- (21) He is in charge of the game. (3)
- (23) Mel —, Wolves striker. (4)
- (24) Tran —, Rovers Fourth Division club from Prenton Park. (4)
- (26) David —, Sheffield Wednesday midfielder. (5)
- (27) Andy —, Leeds striker. (7)
- (28) Norwich City striker. (4 & 6)

DOWN:—

- (3) Trophies and medals, for example. (6)
- (4) East —, Scottish Second Division club from Firs Park. (8)
- (5) The 5th, 8th, 6th, 3rd and 4th letters of Rotherham. (5)
- (6) The number of goals the teams have obtained. (6)
- (7) If Stoke, Southend, Fulham and Preston give "four", what will Newport, Oxford, Millwall and Stranraer give? (4)
- (13) "The — — —", nickname of Sheffield Wednesday. (3)
- (14) Viv —, Nottingham Forest defender. (8)
- (16) Pitt —, Stadium; Aberdeen. (3)
- (18) — City, Scottish First Division club from Glebe Park. (7)
- (19) — City, Third Division club from St. James' Park. (6)
- (20) Graham —, Brighton defender. (6)
- (21) Paul — — —, Leicester City midfielder player. (4)
- (22) Mark —, Spurs striker. (5)
- (25) V — —, Field; ground of Swansea City. (4)

DOWN:—

- (1) Des —, Aston Villa midfielder player. (7)
- (2) George —, famous 37-year-old who last played for Bournemouth. (8)

ANSWERS ON PAGE 29

JOHN Reilly faces one of the most daunting prospects next season — to gain a first team place at Dundee United.

The Tannadice Park men surprised everyone in Scotland by capturing the Scottish Premier Division Championship for the first time ahead of Celtic, Aberdeen and Rangers.

And striker Reilly has to try to displace one of a front three of Paul Sturrock, Davie Dodds and Ralph Milne.

Between them, this talented trio scored 66 goals throughout the 1982-83 season.

"I know that I have a mountain

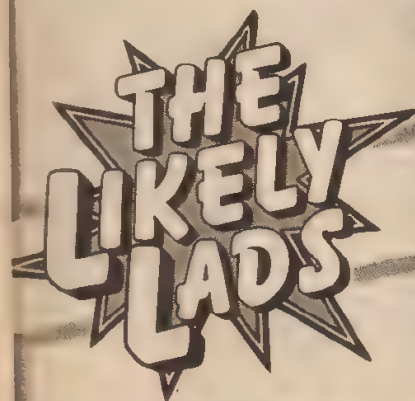
Blime

to climb," admits the 21-year-old striker. "But I also realise that I have the ability and the goalscoring instinct to grab my chance should one of them fail next term."

"Having been substitute in more than 20 games last season, I know the strengths and weaknesses of our strikers."

"Without giving any names I am

confident I can run in 1984. "I base fact that weakness finished "That just faith "Assis Smith h me to in Smith Scotlan improv



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ARE YOU A WORLD EXPERT?

This exclusive SHOOT quiz will reveal whether you know the world football scene. We offer you a selection of three answers to each question, only one of which is the correct one. You can check how well you have scored below.

- 1 At which ground do AC Milan play their home matches? (a) Muncapli; (b) San Siro; (c) Stadia Olimpico
- 2 Pele started his distinguished career with which club? (a) Flamengo; (b) Cruzeiro; (c) Santos
- 3 Which was the first country to stage the World Cup Finals? (a) Brazil; (b) France; (c) Uruguay
- 4 What is the name of Hungary's national stadium? (a) Nepstadion; (b) Magyarstad; (c) Ujpesti Stadion
- 5 Which club beat Nottingham Forest in the 1980 World Club Championship? (a) Boca Juniors; (b) Independiente; (c) Nacional
- 6 Who scored two goals in the 1978 World Cup Final? (a) Mario Kempes; (b) Rene Houseman; (c) Leopoldo Luque
- 7 How many times have Real Madrid won the European Cup? (a) Six; (b) Seven; (c) Eight
- 8 Uni Craiova are a major club in which country? (a) Poland; (b) Rumania; (c) Bulgaria
- 9 From which club did Diego Maradona join Barcelona? (a) Argentinos Juniors; (b) Huracan; (c) Penarol
- 10 Oleg Blokhin has been a major star with which club? (a) Dynamo Moscow; (b) Dynamo Tbilisi; (c) Dynamo Kiev

- 11 Giorgio Chinaglia is a star in the USA with which club? (a) Chicago Sting; (b) New York Cosmos; (c) Tampa Bay Rowdies
- 12 In which city is the Prater Stadion? (a) Vienna; (b) Zurich; (c) Brussels
- 13 Which country lost 10-1 to Hungary in the 1982 World Cup Finals? (a) Kuwait; (b) Cameroon; (c) El Salvador
- 14 Who captained Brazil when they won the World Cup for a third time? (a) Carlos Alberto; (b) Gerson; (c) Brito
- 15 With which club did Gerd Muller establish himself as a world star? (a) Hamburg; (b) Cologne; (c) Bayern Munich
- 16 Who scored a penalty for Holland in the 1974 World Cup Final? (a) Johan Cruyff; (b) Ruud Krol; (c) Johan Neeskens
- 17 Which Greek club has reached a European Cup Final? (a) Olympiakos; (b) AEK Athens; (c) Panathinaikos
- 18 Who managed the 1982 World Champions? (a) Cesar Menotti; (b) Enzo Bearzot; (c) Tele Santana
- 19 What nationality is Michel Platini? (a) Italian; (b) French; (c) Belgian
- 20 Who scored the winning goal in the 1983 European Cup Final? (a) Felix Magath; (b) Manny Kaltz; (c) Horst Hrubesch

ANSWERS

20. (a) Felix Magath
19. (b) French
18. (b) Enzo Bearzot
17. (c) Panathinaikos
16. (c) Johan Neeskens
15. (c) Bayern Munich
14. (a) Carlos Alberto
13. (c) El Salvador
12. (a) Vienna
11. (b) New York Cosmos
10. (c) Dynamo Kiev
9. (a) Argentinos Juniors
8. (b) Rumania
7. (a) Six
6. (c) Leopoldo Luque
5. (b) Independiente
4. (b) Magyarstad
3. (c) Uruguay
2. (c) Santos
1. (b) San Siro

15 or more right: You have the world at your feet
10-14 right: You're quite worldly
0-9 right: Read Steve Carter's Worldwide more closely.



Stewart McKimmie will not surrender the left-back role at Dundee without a fight.

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POINTS SAVE



LEFT: Aberdeen's Jim Leighton played a crucial role in his side's success last season.
BELOW: Clean handling such as this won the Birmingham Player of the Year award for Tony Coton.



Liverpool's Bruce Grobbelaar dives fearfully at the feet of Ipswich strike Paul Mariner to prevent a certain goal.



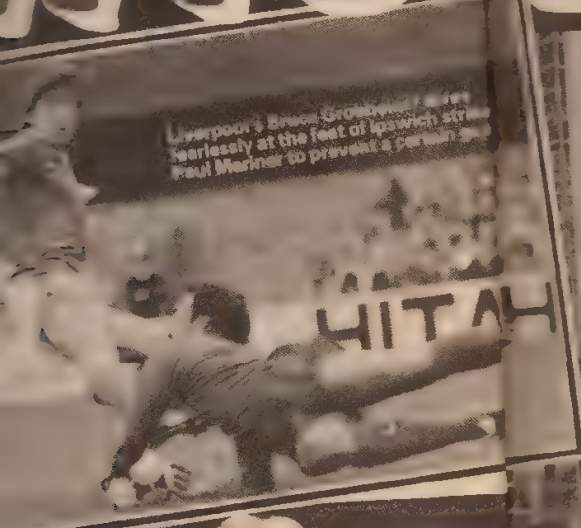
ABOVE: Sunderland's Mark Frith helped his side to a win over Arsenal with this stunning save from Brian Talbot.
BELOW: Forest's Hans van Breukelen catches a speculative shot from Villa striker Peter Withe.



Stoke's keeper Peter Fox makes a point-blank save to deny Arsenal's Tony Woodcock.



GOALKEEPERS' SAVERS



Liverpool's Brian Greenwood dives fearlessly at the feet of Ipswich striker Paul Mariner to prevent a certain goal.



ABOVE: Stand-in Mark Prudhoe helped Sunderland to victory at Arsenal with this stunning save from Brian Talbot.
BELOW: Forest's Hans van Breukelen catches spectacularly despite the presence of burly Villa striker Peter Withe.



Forest's Brian Woods made a hard way for himself but got in the way of Ipswich's goalkeeper's save.



VAN HANECEM BOWS OUT

SIXTY thousand fans came to say goodbye to Willem van Hanegem, even though the game was televised live on TV. The 38-year-old former Holland midfielder has been the most popular player in the country for years, despite the return of Johan Cruyff, and van Hanegem said goodbye to football in a charity game in Rotterdam.

Feyenoord, the club he played for with such distinction, played the Dutch World Cup team of 1974 and even though van Hanegem lost a lot of money through a bad business deal two years ago he insisted half the proceeds of the match went to charity.

The game ended 2-2, with van Hanegem and Cruyff scoring for the national team. The Dutch superstars came from all over the world. Arie Haan made the short journey from Belgium; Johnny Rep

flew in from France; Cruyff left his holiday resort in Spain; Wim Rijsbergen and Wim Suurbier jetted in from the States while coach Rinus Michels, now with Cologne, arrived ten minutes after the game had started.

Van Hanegem has quit not just because of his age, but he is blind in one eye and will shortly have an operation on the other where he has only 80 per cent vision.

Then he will join Feyenoord's coaching staff.



YUGOSLAV RIOT

In Yugoslavia, the top of the table battle in the Eastern League between Sutjeska and Dubocica ended in a 0-0 draw ... with 51 people injured.

There was a real tumult after the final whistle, with the crowd hurling everything from cans to knives at the referee as he tried to leave the pitch.

Vehicles were overturned in more riots outside the stadium, and police had to make baton charges and fire into the air to restore some sort of order.

DANISH international midfielder Soren Lerby, seen here with his wife Wilcke, has plenty to smile about. Denmark's 3-1 victory over Hungary means the Danes are well-placed to qualify for the European Championship Finals at England's expense ... and Lerby has just signed a lucrative contract with Bayern Munich after leaving Ajax.



NEW ZEALAND World Cup striker Wynton Rufer, who had a brief spell with Norwich City, was named the season's top Swiss soccer discovery by the influential publication *Sport*.

The magazine said Rufer, 20, did exceptionally well in the second half of the season for FC Zurich and became one of the country's top strikers. Rufer's nine goals played a vital part in Zurich's gaining a UEFA Cup place.

HOLGER HIERONYMUS of SV Hamburg is the fastest player in West Germany. He drives a Ferrari that can do more than 160 miles an hour.

THE Italians seem to have a knack of turning everything into an intrigue, and Lazio's signing of Argentine right-flank striker Ricardo Dabrowski was no exception.

While he was on trial, the club announced that the newcomer was Ricardo Manana, a goalscoring centre-forward from Tigre.

The player himself later told journalists that his name was Ricardo Santini. When his real identity was finally revealed, Lazio's only excuse for the deception was that: "We didn't want other clubs to show an interest, because that might have put his price up." Dabrowski cost £100,000.

THE GENTILE TOUCH

ONE MAN who most definitely wasn't surprised when Claudio Gentile broke Lars Bastrup's jaw in the European Cup Final was Diego Maradona.

The Argentine superstar still can't forget the treatment dished out by the Italian defender during the World Cup a year ago,

and after seeing the Juventus full-back hit Bastrup with an elbow while the ball was 30 yards away. Maradona commented: "The man is a butcher. It's horrible to watch him. He grabs, tugs, pulls, kicks, punches—and while referees consent to his tactics he'll go on doing it."

ARCONADA RECORD

SPAIN's number one goalkeeper, Luis Arconada, recently set a new record

The Real Sociedad goalkeeper clocked up 50 international appearances for Spain in the European Championship victory in Iceland—and this is the highest number of caps ever achieved by a Spanish player.

Oddly, the previous record-holder was also a Basque goalkeeper—Athletic Bilbao's legendary José Angel Iribar. As 29 is by no means retiring age for a 'keeper, Arconada could go on to establish a record that'll really take some beating.



2p or not 2p

IN VIGO, Spain, the local authorities have now closed their account books on last summer's World Cup.

As you'll remember, Vigo was the first-phase headquarters for World Champions Italy, third-placed Poland and outsiders Peru and Cameroon.

The final balances in the municipal account book reveal a handsome profit of five pesetas—just over two pence.

ANOTHER club in financial difficulties is the Ferroviário club of Macaé, League winners in 1953 and 1954. So the Brazilian club decided to form a co-operative which works as follows:

● The club provides the match kit for the players, shirt, shorts, socks, boots and medical equipment, but pay their players nothing. On the other hand, the club receives no gate money at all.

This is divided among the club's players. Quite a novel solution to the problem.

HOW THEY FINISHED IN EUROPE

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
SV Hamburg	34	20	12	2	79	33	+46	52
Werder Bremen	34	23	6	5	76	36	+40	52
VfB Stuttgart	34	20	8	6	80	47	+33	48
Bayern Munich	34	17	10	7	74	33	+41	44
FC Cologne	34	17	9	8	69	42	+27	43
Kaiserslautern	34	14	13	7	57	44	+13	41
Bor. Dortmund	34	16	7	11	78	62	+16	39
Arminia Bielefeld	34	12	7	15	46	71	-25	31
Fort. Düsseldorf	34	11	8	15	63	75	-12	30
Eintracht Frankfurt	34	12	5	17	48	57	-9	29
Bayer Leverkusen	34	10	9	15	43	66	-23	29
Bor. M'gladbach	34	12	4	18	64	63	+1	28
VfL Bochum	34	8	12	14	43	49	-6	28
FC Nürnberg	34	11	6	17	44	70	-26	28
E. Braunschweig	34	8	11	15	42	65	-23	27
FC Schalke 04	34	8	8	20	48	66	-18	22
Karlsruher SC	34	7	7	20	39	66	-27	21
Hertha BSC	34	5	10	19	43	67	-24	20

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Nantes	30	24	19	4	77	29	+48	50
Bordeaux	30	20	8	10	67	40	+27	47
Paris-SG	30	20	7	11	66	40	+26	47
Lens	30	18	8	12	64	55	+9	44
Laval	30	15	14	9	42	41	+1	41
Monaco	30	14	15	9	55	35	+20	43
Nancy	30	17	7	14	74	61	+13	41
Auxerre	30	12	14	12	56	48	+8	38
Metz	30	13	11	14	66	67	-1	37
Brest	30	11	15	12	53	63	-10	37
Toulouse	30	15	6	17	52	66	-14	36
Sochaux	30	9	17	12	52	53	-1	35
Lille	30	13	8	17	36	45	+11	34
St-Etienne	30	11	12	15	41	52	-11	34
Strasbourg	30	11	11	16	40	51	-11	33
Rouen	30	11	10	17	46	54	-8	32
Bastia	30	9	14	15	41	52	-11	32
Tours	30	12	7	19	56	68	-12	31
Lyon	30	11	6	21	57	77	-20	28
Mulhouse	30	10	8	20	46	76	-30	28

NO one can say AS Roma didn't deserve the Championship win for 41 years.

They led the League for 29 of the 30-week season; only Sampdoria, with three successive wins at the beginning, prevented the Rome club from a start-to-finish victory.

Then Trevor Francis was injured and Sampdoria lost much of their strike force. Juventus, the favourites, were unable to find consistency despite beating Roma four times—twice in the League and twice in the Cup!

Falcao de

After Italy's surprise World Cup victory last summer everyone in the country expected much improved football, but if goals are the yardstick then it was business as usual with a disappointing total.

This may sound like a contradiction as the number of goals scored was actually UP for the first time in five seasons, but the average of 2.12 per game was still very low and 47 scoreless matches represented a one-in-five 0-0 result.

Disappointed

Too many of the foreign stars disappointed, too. West Germany's Hansi Muller found it hard to fit into Inter's style of play; Zbigniew Boniek didn't produce the goods for Juventus, while Argentina captain Daniel Passarella didn't live up to expectations.

Only Verona, with the Brazilian Dircceu outstanding, kept pace with Roma and they finished a very good fourth, their best season.

Roma owe much of their success to the brilliant form of Brazilian midfielder Falcao, who won so much praise for his performances in the World Cup. At present he's

The triumphant Rome stars celebrate their Championship success.

HOW ROMA WON THE TITLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Cagliari	34	1	0	33	3	874	-871	2
Verona	34	1	0	33	3	902	-899	2
Sampdoria	34	0	1	33	3	255	-252	1
Ascoli	34	2	1	31	3	853	-851	5
Napoli	34	3	1	30	3	289	-286	7
Cesena	34	1	0	33	3	096	-993	2
Juventus	34	1	2	31	3	089	-886	4
Pisa	34	3	1	30	3	885	-882	7
Udinese	34	1	1	32	3	187	-184	3
Fiorentina	34	3	1	30	3	207	-204	7
Catanzaro	34	0	0	34	3	244	-241	0
Inter Milan	34	2	1	31	3	902	-899	5
Avellino	34	1	1	32	3	639	-636	3
Genoa	34	2	0	32	3	539	-536	4
Torino	34	1	1	32	3	482	-479	3
Cagliari	34	1	0	33	3	064	-661	2
Verona	34	1	1	32	3	514	-511	3
Sampdoria	34	1	0	33	3	952	-949	2
Ascoli	34	1	1	32	3	642	-639	3
Napoli	34	5	2	27	3	926	-921	17
Cesena	34	1	1	32	3	431	-428	3
Juventus	34	1	2	31	3	000	-997	4
Pisa	34	2	1	31	3	518	-515	5
Udinese	34	0	0	34	3	128	-125	0
Fiorentina	34	2	2	30	3	952	-949	6
Catanzaro	34	2	0	32	3	817	-814	4
Inter Milan	34	0	0	34	3	943	-940	0
Avellino	34	2	0	32	3	399	-396	4
Genoa	34	1	1	32	3	827	-824	3
Torino	34	3	1	30	3	909	-906	7

Franco Tardito
Franco Sestini
Pietro Vierci
Agostino
Sebastiano
Michele
Ubaldo
Aldo
Paulo Roberto
Bruno
Herbert
Claudio
Odoacre
Roberto
Paolo
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NEGEM VS OUT

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Champions OF Europe

AS Roma

Falcao demands king's ransom

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HOW ROMA WON THE TITLE

Cagliari	3-1	a	35,874
Verona	1-0	h	47,902
Sampdoria	0-1	a	40,255
Ascoli	2-1	h	43,853
Napoli	3-1	a	64,289
Cesena	1-0	h	47,096
Juventus	1-2	a	46,089
Pisa	3-1	h	49,885
Udinese	1-1	a	43,187
Fiorentina	3-1	h	66,207
Catanzaro	0-0	a	19,244
Inter Milan	2-1	h	64,902
Avellino	1-1	a	17,639
Genoa	2-0	h	52,539
Torino	1-1	a	39,482
Cagliari	1-0	h	64,064
Verona	1-1	a	41,514
Sampdoria	1-0	h	59,952
Ascoli	1-1	a	26,842
Napoli	5-2	h	62,926
Cesena	1-1	a	19,431
Juventus	1-2	h	70,000
Pisa	2-1	a	28,518
Udinese	0-0	h	62,128
Fiorentina	2-2	a	53,952
Catanzaro	2-0	h	60,817
Inter Milan	0-0	a	58,943
Avellino	2-0	h	50,399
Genoa	1-1	a	39,827
Torino	3-1	h	68,909



	POSITION	AGE	GAMES PLAYED	GOALS (PENS)	TOTAL GAMES PLAYED	TOTAL GOALS SCORED	
Franco Tancredi	g	28	29	0	109	0	Joined Roma in 1977
Franco Supercchi	g	38	1	0	317	0	Joined Roma in 1980
Pietro Vierchowood	d	24	30	0	88	4	Joined Roma in 1982
Agostino Di Bartolomei	d	28	28	7 (1)	207	45	Joined Roma in 1972
Sebastiano Nela	d	22	22	1	58	3	Joined Roma in 1981
Maurizio Nappi	d	31	22	0	167	1	Joined Roma in 1982
Ubaldo Righetti	d	20	16	0	25	0	Joined Roma in 1979
Aldo Maldera	d	29	26	1	230	31	Joined Roma in 1982
Paulo Roberto Falcao	m	28	27	7	122	16	Joined Roma in 1980
Bruno Conti	m	28	26	3 (1)	122	12	Joined Roma in 1982
Herbert Prohaska	m	28	26	2	85	7	Joined Roma in 1979
Carlo Ancelotti	m	24	24	2	71	4	Joined Roma in 1981
Odoacre Chierico	m	24	24	0	15	0	Joined Roma in 1982
Claudio Valigi	m	21	15	0	41	1	Joined Roma in 1977
Paolo Giovannelli	m	23	2	0	4	0	Joined Roma in 1978
Roberto Pruzzo	s	28	27	12 (3)	216	93	Joined Roma in 1982
Maurizio Iorio	s	24	28	5	75	15	Joined Roma in 1982
Paolo Alberto Faccini	s	22	5	1	16	2	Joined Roma in 1975
					47		

re-negotiating his contract and
understandably he's asking for a
king's ransom to stay.

The man who guided Roma to
the title — they were beaten in the
UEFA Cup by Benfica after
knocking out Ipswich Town — is
Nils Liedholm. A Swede, the
61-year-old Liedholm had a fine
career as a player, representing his
country in the 1958 World Cup
Finals, when they lost to Brazil in
the Final.

He played for AC Milan and won

five Championship medals. He
retired in 1961 and started a
successful career as a manager.
During his second season as
manager of AC Milan in 1965 they
finished second.

He went on to manage Varese
(where he discovered Roberto
Bettega), Fiorentina and Roma
before returning to AC Milan and
at the second attempt they were
Champions.

Scandal

Liedholm surprised everyone by
quitting Milan four years ago and
returned to Roma — it is said that
he got wind of the bribe scandal
that rocked Italian football and
resulted in relegation for Milan.

Roma will be among the
favourites for next season's
European Cup — especially if
Falcao stays.

TOP SCORERS

- 18 Platini (Juventus — 1 penalty)
- 16 Altobelli (Inter Milan — 3)
- 13 Penzo (Verona — 3)
- 12 Pruzzo (Roma — 3)
- 9 Pires (Cagliari — 2)
- Antognoni (Fiorentina — 1)
- Biaschi (Genoa)
- 8 Schachner (Cesena)
- Berggren (Pisa)
- Scanziani (Sampdoria)
- Selvaggi (Torino)
- 7 De Vecchi (Ascoli — 2)
- Greco (Ascoli)
- Vignola (Avellino — 1)
- Antonelli (Genoa)
- Rossi (Juventus — 2)
- Bettega (Juventus)
- Di Bartolomei (Roma — 1)
- Falcao (Roma)
- Francis (Sampdoria)
- Borghesi (Torino)
- Fanna (Verona)

ALEX MacDONALD makes Scottish soccer history next season when he becomes the first player-manager of a Premier Division side!

"It's always been an ambition of mine," says the Hearts inspiration who led his club out of the First Division.

"I can't wait for next season to start. It will be an extremely tough and crucial one for my side. I realise I will have to strengthen my squad for the rigours ahead."

"We've had a bit of a yo-yo tag in recent seasons. We have been too good for the First Division, but not good enough to live in the Premier Division."

"I've played against Charlie and behind John so I should know what I am talking about. Both have an uncanny instinct for scoring goals. It's a natural gift — and 'Robbo' has it in abundance."

"John stays extremely cool in tight situations and, running in on a defender or a goalkeeper, I would take him to score every time."

Robertson is just one of many talented youngsters around Tynecastle these days.

Gary Mackay, like Robertson, is a forward who excites the fans with his twisting, darting runs into the danger zone and he, too, can finish with a flourish.

Goalkeeper Henry Smith, once on Leeds' books, played splendidly last season, but he realises he has Scottish Youth star Ian Westwater challenging all the way for the number one spot.

And helping Alex MacDonald rule in midfield is the enterprising Davie Bowman, who recently signed a new two-year contract with the club, as did Robertson and Mackay.

Further good news for Hearts is that the signing ban imposed on them by the Scottish League should be lifted in the near future.

The League suspended the club from making any signings because they still owed money to Dundee

Alex MacDonald stamps his authority on this midfield battle with Partick's John Murray (No. 4) during Hearts' successful promotion-winning campaign last season.

United after buying Willie Pettigrew and Derek Addison and to Celtic, after purchasing Roddie MacDonald.

Go-ahead chairman Wallace Mercer said: "We paid Dundee United more money recently and the debt will soon be wiped out completely."

"We need to buy new players and the board will be having a meeting with manager Alex MacDonald and his assistant Sandy Jardine on this matter."

"We intend to do more than just survive in the Premier Division, so we'll have to spend some money."

Alex makes history

"Obviously I want to rectify that situation and next season will be the year to do it."

"Tremendously exciting times are just around the corner for this club. It's great to realise I'll be involved on and off the park."

One of the youngsters who has done so much for MacDonald, Hearts and the potentially enormous Tynecastle support is striker John Robertson.

He is so highly rated at Hearts that assistant-manager Sandy Jardine says bluntly: "Young John can become every bit as good as Charlie Nicholas!"

64 PAGES of stirring soccer action

Shoot! HOLIDAY SPECIAL

featuring the Big names... Top games... Great photos

THE SECRET OF LIVERPOOL'S SUCCESS

Anfield stars reveal how they won their 14th Championship.

HEADLINE BUSTERS

The players who made the news last season.

STORY OF A STAR

The rise to fame of Tony Woodcock — told in exciting pictures.

PLUS!

*Scotland's goalkeepers hit back

*VIV ANDERSON... the nightmare is over

*JIMMY GREAVES — some startling revelations about today's strikers

*COLOUR PHOTOS OF John Wark, Gary Shaw, Paul Walsh, David Provan and Clive Allen.



GET A COPY NOW
From Britain's biggest selling soccer weekly

WHAT a difference a year makes. This time 12 months ago Paul Walsh was preparing for another season in the Second Division with Charlton Athletic.

Today he is the subject of high-priced transfer talk, feared by First Division defenders and an England international striker.

Walsh, of the lightning turn, instant control and lethal shot, emerged as one of the few successes from England's otherwise disastrous three-match tour of Australia.

Bobby Robson's squad, full of new faces and untried hopefuls, flumbled and stumbled through three unforgettable fiascos against opposition that would struggle to hold first team places in the Fourth Division.

Moral

A 0-0 draw and a 1-1 draw were hailed as moral victories by the Australians. Only once did England manage a win — and that was thanks to Walsh.

The 20-year-old striker gave his all in a bid to prove to manager Bobby Robson that he has the class to become part of England's European Championship campaign.

And his single goal in the second game in Australia saved a considerable number of blushes.

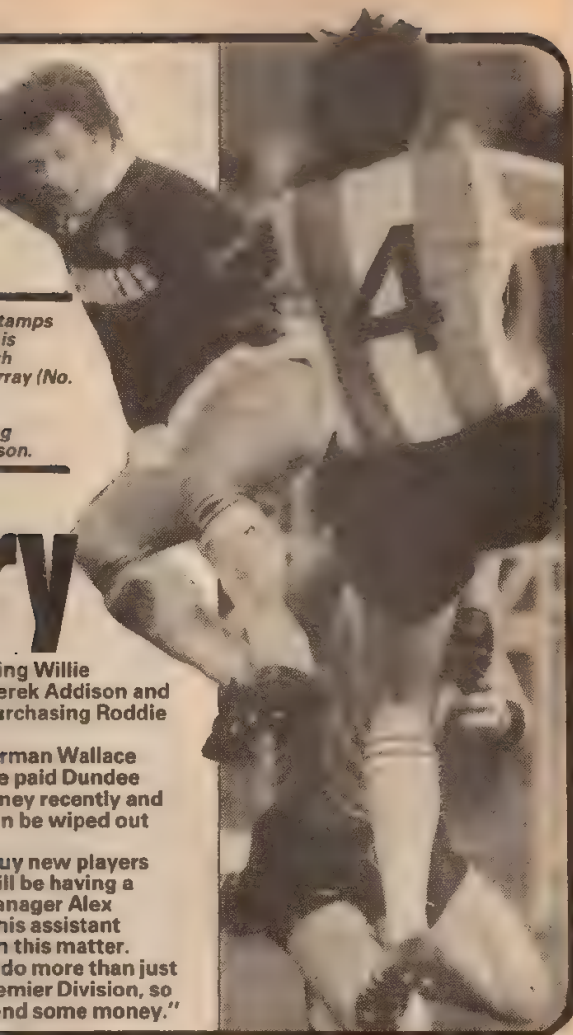
Walsh himself describes his 12 months as "unforgettable!"

Luton signed him for £150,000

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Walsh himself describes his 12 months as 'unforgettable'.

Luton signed him for £150,000

last July and he quickly impressed beginning with a sizzling hat-trick against Notts County.

"But if someone told me that I would experience so many highs and lows in one season I would not have believed them," he says.

"First the transfer and First Division football. Then to find that Luton's a striker's dream because they play attacking skilful football.

"And when I made the England Under-21 side I was absolutely thrilled.

"Mind you, I also saw the other side of the coin — when the goals

dried up and we slipped down the table into the danger zone. Those were very worrying weeks."

Luton's ultimate survival had a lot to do with Walsh's quick adaptation to the pace and pressures of the First Division.

Already Walsh has been compared with Jimmy Greaves and West German goal-machine, Gerd Muller.

"Very flattering," says Walsh, "but hardly true. I have a lot to learn and a long way to go before I can make any such claim.

"But at least it proves that

people have been impressed with the form I have shown so far.

"Bobby Robson made my year when he invited me to join the England squad for the British Championships. I didn't play, but I became accustomed to the whole set up — a great thrill.

"I was very proud to be asked to go on the tour of Australia. I knew it was a great opportunity to show what I could do.

"Scoring was a bonus, and for all the criticism, we did not lose a game and conceded only one goal.

"England tried a lot of new players and everybody knows that any team needs to be reasonably settled to really impress away from home.

"Now I only hope that what I did in Australia will enable me to stake a claim for a regular place. If not then I'll battle next season to achieve that personal target."

Not bad for 12 months work, but that's the wonder of Walsh.

WINNER WALSH



Walsh closes in on Australia's Steve O'Connor during England's recent tour Down Under.

DOWN UNDER WITH ENGLAND'S NEW LIONS

ENGLAND'S recent tour of Australia has been written off as a disaster in certain quarters. Two draws and a 1-0 win were all they had to show for the 26,000 mile round trip, but at least Bobby Robson was able to take a look at a number of new faces.



How well senior Mark Barham played in England's first two games Down Under.



Derek Thomas forgets the ball as John Gregory's shot is blocked by Paul Walsh in Sydney.

...But was it a goal?

England's only success of the tour was a 1-0 win in Brisbane. Set Australia claim the ball was out of play before John Gregory's central shot. Paul Walsh's winner. Judge for yourselves.



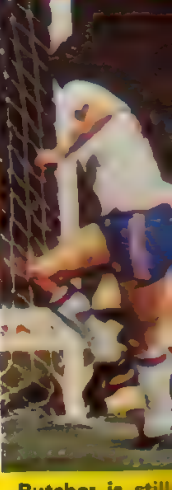
Terry Butcher fails to reach Mark Barham's right-wing cross. Walsh, on the ground, has already missed out.



John Gregory dashes in at the back post as Australian 'keeper Terry Greedy scrambles back to his feet.



Did the ball cross the line? The vital moment of contact as Gregory pulls the ball back across goal.



Butcher is still Gregory's pass.



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Southampton skipper Steve Williams, in the thick of the action as usual.



QPR star John Gregory was possibly the most successful of all the England newcomers.

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Danny Thomas forgot all the transfer talk to make his England debut in Sydney.



Mark Pickering became the first Sunderland player to appear for England in eight years. His debut came in the unlikely surroundings of Melbourne.



Butcher fails to reach Mark Barham's right-wing as Walsh, on the ground, has already missed out.



John Gregory dashes in at the back post as Australian 'keeper Terry Greedy scrambles back to his feet.



Did the ball cross the line? The vital moment of contact as Gregory pulls the ball back across goal.



Butcher is still unable to turn the chance into a goal as Gregory's pass gives England a second bite.



Walsh (partially hidden by Butcher) bundles the ball over the line as Trevor Francis acclaims England's winner.

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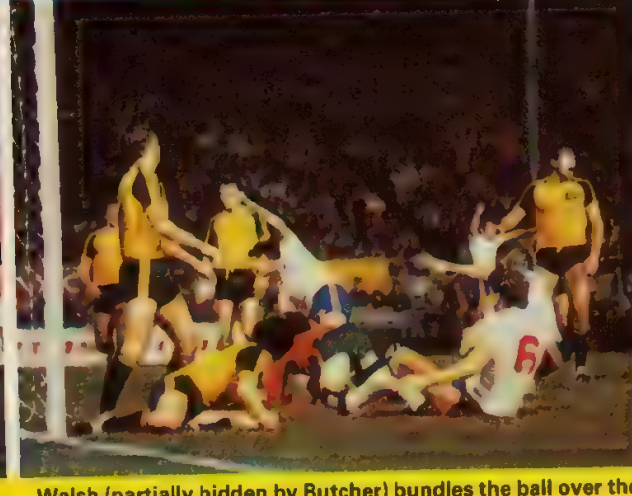
Goal post as Australian to his feet.



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Survey of Bobby Robson's first

year in ch

BOBBOY Robson's record at the end of his first year in charge of the England team could have read: won eight, drawn three, lost one.

Instead, the abortive three-match tour to Australia with a makeweight team this summer has upset the figures.

Two draws and only one victory — 1-0 in Brisbane — means that Robson has to be content with less impressive figures at the end of the first year of his reign as successor to Ron Greenwood.

England's record under Robson reads: Won six, drawn five, lost one.

The only defeat England suffered was at the hands of West Germany in a friendly at Wembley last October.

We study the ups and downs, big match incidents and events of Bobby Robson's first season in charge of the national side.

Trevor Francis is grounded but he's just scored England's second goal.



"I was particularly delighted with Tony Woodcock and Sammy Lee."

The victory was made all the more satisfying as Robson's plans had been disrupted by injuries to captain Ray Wilkins, Steve Coppell and Alan Devonshire.

Bryan Robson, Manchester United team-mate of Wilkins, took over as skipper and inspired England's win. He said: "This was better than our World Cup win in Hungary. Now I plan to keep the captaincy!"

Team: Shilton, Neal, Sansom, Thompson, Martin, Robson, Lee*, Mabbutt, Mariner, Woodcock, Morley.

England 9 Luxembourg 0

(Marcel Bossi o.g., Steve Coppell, Tony Woodcock, Luther Blissett 3, Mark Chamberlain, Glenn Hoddle, Phil Neal) Dec. 15, 1982. At Wembley. European Championship.

HAT-TRICK hero Luther Blissett emerged from the dressing room clutching the match-ball and declared: "I should have scored at least five and, at a stretch, even six. But, overall, I'm well pleased."

England 0 Greece 0

March 30, 1983. At Wembley. European Championship.

THE Press called it a 'Greek tragedy' and it was certainly England's most disappointing display since Bobby Robson took charge.

Trevor Francis returned to the England side after five months out through injury but his partnership with Tony Woodcock failed to make an impression. The Greeks stuck rigidly to a man-to-man marking system which Robson's men found impossible to penetrate.

That failure provoked jeering from the crowd and Robson said: "I believe their reaction was borne out of sheer frustration, but the situation is still in our hands. There were people talking about five or six goals. In the end if we had squeezed just one I would have been happy."

Team: Shilton, Neal, Sansom, Lee, Martin, Butcher, Coppell, Mabbutt, Francis, Woodcock (Rix), Devonshire (Blissett).

AUSSIES UPSET

Denmark 2 England 2

(Trevor Francis, 2) Sept. 22, 1982. In Copenhagen. European Championship.

ONLY the agile goalkeeping of Peter Shilton and the Danes over-eager shooting saved Robson from beginning his international managership with a defeat as heavy as the 5-2 one which greeted Alf Ramsey when he became England's team chief in 1963. At least Robson was given an early warning for that decisive return clash with the Danes on September 21.

"It would have been a travesty had we won," he said. "I knew they were a good team. Now they have proved to us that they can be brilliant."

Team: Shilton, Neal, Sansom, Wilkins, Osman, Butcher, Morley (Hill*), Robson, Mariner, Francis, Rix. *... New Cap.

Greece 0 England 3

(Tony Woodcock 2, Sammy Lee) Nov. 17, 1982. In Salonika. European Championship.

ENGLAND gave Robson a first win to remember and he heaped praise on both scorers.

"I thought it was a magnificent result and a very good performance," he said.

England 1 W. Germany 2

(Tony Woodcock) Oct. 13, 1982. At Wembley. Friendly.

ROBSON used this friendly match against the beaten World Cup Finalists to introduce four newcomers to the England squad — Gary Mabbutt of Spurs, Stoke's Mark Chamberlain and the Watford pair Luther Blissett and John Barnes.

Mabbutt and Blissett duly made their international debuts and produced encouraging signs of Robson's 'New England'.

Mabbutt, playing at right-back for the first time in a competitive match, hit a post, but Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, the West German captain, struck twice within ten minutes. Tony Woodcock replied but England's run of 12 unbeaten games was broken.

Team: Shilton, Mabbutt*, Sansom, Thompson, Butcher, Armstrong (Rix), Hill, Wilkins, Mariner (Woodcock), Regis (Blissett*), Devonshire.

It was England's best win at Wembley and their biggest international victory since 1964. The goals provided a valuable cushion should the European Championship qualifying table be decided on goal difference.

Robson said: "I've never seen such a one-sided match."

The England manager played in a World Cup qualifier in Luxembourg in 1960 — England won 9-0!

Team: Clemence, Neal, Sansom, Martin, Butcher, Robson, Lee, Mabbutt (Hoddle), Blissett, Coppell (Chamberlain*), Woodcock.

England 2 Hungary 0

(Trevor Francis, Peter Withe) April 27. At Wembley. European Championship.

ENGLAND increased their lead at the top of the European qualifying group thanks to a vastly improved performance.

Trevor Francis was in world-class form, looking sharp and displaying skill with an edge hardened by the rigours of close marking in the Italian League. His goal, from a set-piece free-kick and Peter Withe's first goal in his six internationals decided the match.

Withe, incredibly, had fractured cheek bone and his left thumb before volleying the second goal.

Robson said of the Aston Villa forward: "He was so difficult to handle and deserves to be considered for as long as his legs hold out."

Team: Shilton, Neal, Sansom, Lee, Martin, Butcher, Mabbutt, Francis, Blissett, Withe, Cowans.

N. Ireland 0 England

May 28. At Windsor Park, Belfast. British Championship.

A DETERMINED Irish effort stifled the midfield talents of Tottenham's Glenn Hoddle, and England had a captain Peter Shilton to thank for serving a record that has stood for years.

England had not lost in Belfast since 1927 but Shilton was at his best to Northern Ireland a goal when Glenn Hoddle, on his international debut, headed an attempted clearance towards his own net.

Robson considered the performance "Steady rather than special. A was a fair result."

Team: Shilton, Neal, Sansom, Hoddle, Roberts*, Butcher, Mabbutt, Francis, Withe, Blissett (Barnes), Cowans.

England 2 Wales 1

(Terry Butcher, Phil Neal pen.) Feb. 23, 1983. At Wembley. British Championship.

ENGLAND started their British Championship campaign with a convincing victory over Wales, but on a bitterly cold evening only 24,000, the lowest attendance for a Wembley international, saw their first win over Wales at the stadium for ten years.

Injuries and club calls gave Robson the opportunity to blood two new internationals, Derek Statham of West Bromwich Albion and Aston Villa's Gordon Cowans.

Team: Shilton, Neal, Statham*, Lee, Martin, Butcher, Mabbutt, Blissett, Mariner, Cowans*, Devonshire.



Robson's first

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year in charge of England

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England 2 Scotland 0

(Bryan Robson, Gordon Cowans) June 1, 1983. At Wembley. British Championship.

THE Scots came to Wembley with high hopes and paraded Celtic's scoring sensation Charlie Nicholas. But Bonny Prince Charlie's fire was snuffed out by Graham Roberts, looking much more assured after his shaky start against Northern Ireland.

Bryan Robson, back in England action for the first time since the 9-0 thrashing of Luxembourg, scored the opening

Gordon Cowans (right) fires the second goal against the Scots.



clubs insisted on taking their stars on their own summer tours, so the national side had a new look for the first Test against the 'Socceroos'.

John Gregory, the QPR midfielder, won his first cap at the age of 28 and Danny Thomas (Coventry), Steve Williams (Southampton), Mark Barham (Norwich) and Paul Walsh (Luton) all made their international debuts.

Australia made history by avoiding defeat but their defensive tactics — they played with five men across the back, and their most frequent pass was to their goalkeeper — turned the match into an endurance test for the 28,000 spectators.

Robson admitted: "We should have

Australia's Yugoslavian coach Frank Arok was full of praise for the little Luton striker.

"He reminds me so much of the great West German Gerd Muller. He was the player I most feared being brought in, and he showed my fears were justified."

Bobby Robson commented: "He did pretty well in his first full game. He can hold the ball like glue and is certainly not afraid of the kind of intimidation he was under tonight."

Team: Shilton, Neal, Statham (Williams), Barham, Osman, Butcher, Gregory, Francis, Walsh, Cowans, Barnes.

Australia 1 England 1

(Phil Neal og) (Trevor Francis) June 19, 1983. In Melbourne. Friendly.

ONE victory (the result of a questionable goal) and two draws against a team of part-timers caused Robson to comment: "This tour has proved there are no easy matches any more."

Trevor Francis, who worked tirelessly despite being on the receiving end of numerous punishing tackles, gave Eng-

BOBBY'S RECORD

England 2 Hungary 0

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N. Ireland 0 England 0

May 28. At Windsor Park, Belfast. British Championship.

A DETERMINED Irish effort stifled the midfield talents of Tottenham's Glenn Hoddle, and England had acting captain Peter Shilton to thank for preserving a record that has stood for 56 years.

England had not lost in Belfast since 1927 but Shilton was at his best to deny Northern Ireland a goal when Graham Roberts, on his international debut, headed an attempted clearance towards his own net.

Robson considered the performance: "Steady rather than special. A draw was a fair result."

Team: Shilton, Neal, Sansom, Hoddle, Roberts*, Butcher, Mabbutt, Francis, Withe, Blissett (Barnes), Cowans.

goal but was injured and taken off in the 24th minute.

Gordon Cowans scored a second-half decider against a disappointing Scotland side and Nicholas' misery was complete when he was substituted in the 68th minute.

Peter Withe was in the wars again. He badly injured a knee and needed five stitches in a head wound after being replaced at half-time.

Robson was delighted. "It's a great night," he said "I wanted to win this game very badly."

Team: Shilton, Neal, Sansom, Lee, Roberts, Butcher, Robson (Mabbutt), Francis, Withe (Blissett), Hoddle, Cowans.

Australia 0 England 0

June 12, 1983. Sydney. Friendly.

SEVERAL top players were missing from the England squad for the three-match tour of Australia. League

been able to break down their defensive barrier but, unfortunately, we had too many players who did very little."

Team: Shilton, Thomas*, Statham (Barnes), Williams*, Osman, Butcher, Barham*, Gregory*, Blissett (Walsh*), Francis, Cowans.

Australia 0 England 1

(Paul Walsh)

June 15, 1983. In Brisbane. Friendly.

PAUL Walsh ended 145 minutes of frustration for the England players with the goal which marked his first full international game.

A delighted Walsh declared: "After travelling so far for my chance, I knew I had to take it. I am really chuffed and the first thing I did was to telephone my family back home."

land the lead in the 24th minute. He turned superbly on a ball from Lee and sent a shot rocketing into the net. But in the 32nd minute Phil Neal, trying to clear, could only watch agonisingly as the ball bounced off his thigh and beyond Shilton's reach.

Francis seemed to have regained the lead in the 74th minute when he scored from a penalty after Kosmina — at one time on Arsenal's books — pushed Butcher. But the referee claimed the penalty area had not been cleared of players and ordered the kick to be retaken. This time Francis shot over the bar.

Team: Shilton (Spink*), Neal (Thomas), Pickering*, Lee, Osman, Butcher, Gregory, Francis, Walsh (Blissett), Cowans, Barnes.

What they're saying...

ROBSON, in his first season in charge, has decided that finding top quality players takes priority over deciding how his England side should play.

As he puts it: "This first year has enabled me to assess the players and to work out who, in my judgment, are the best 22."

"I now have cover for players in every position. I have used the 12 months to have a long, hard look at players and if, as I hope, we can go through to the Finals of the European Championship, I can then decide on our strategy, knowing that we have the players for the job."

Sammy Lee, one of Robson's inspired introductions, admits Robson made a lasting impression in Salonika, where he made his international debut.

"He told me to play as I do for Liverpool and he would be happy," says Lee. "I learned a lot from him when he spoke to us as a squad and individually and I admire his total commitment."

And Peter Shilton (right), one of Robson's most experienced men, pinpoints another strength in the England manager's approach.

"Robson's thoroughness is one of his great qualities."

"But his greatest handicap is that he has so little time with the team before important internationals."

"There is a great deal of work involved in getting players from different clubs to work together as a team."

"I'm sure that with more time for preparation, the results would be even better."



ERIC GATES DOES OVERTIME

A MYSTERY injury that kept Eric Gates out of the second half of last season has ensured a busy summer for the tiny Ipswich striker.

While his Portman Road colleagues have been enjoying a few weeks away from it all, 28-year-old Gates has reported to the ground on a daily basis in a bid to reach peak fitness.

Light training and a series of weight exercises form the main part of his summer routine but Gates has also taken to swimming in an effort to make a splash next term.

It could hardly have been a more frustrating and disappointing campaign for the lively Gates. It was only a few weeks old when he decided to request a transfer which was reluctantly agreed to by the Ipswich directors.

Interest

Manager Bobby Ferguson slapped a £650,000 asking price on the player and by the turn of the year only lukewarm interest had been shown by a handful of clubs.

It was in the popular Atari six-a-side competition that his problems began. A broken toe forced him on to the sidelines for a few weeks and after a couple of comeback games for the reserves he seemed poised to return at first team level.

But then he was laid low by a crippling back injury that had the experts scratching their heads. No fewer than four top specialists examined Gates but each seemed as baffled as the others.

"I can hardly describe how agonising it was. The pain was terrible and it completely floored me. It was a real effort just to get in and out of the car and I even needed my wife to help me have a bath!"

At the time, Gates was thinking of making a full recovery in time to play in the last few games of the

season. But it soon became obvious that he was fighting a losing battle as he struggled to improve.

Gates adds: "I think my broken toe had something to do with the back injury. I was obviously limping quite a bit and I've a feeling this caused the problem."

"It's the first time in my career that I have experienced a serious injury. I had never had to go into hospital until a few weeks ago for a manipulative operation. But even then I was spending some nights sleeping on the floor rather than in bed."

"Gradually, I began to get a bit more mobile and I started to do some light training. Nothing too strenuous, just a few exercises and some weights. The swimming was a big help and helped me regain my confidence."

"I'm resigned to the fact that I'll have to keep plugging away during the summer if I'm to be ready in time for the start of the new season."

"I'll be down at Portman Road every day and I can only keep my fingers crossed that I continue to improve. It was a real drag missing so many games last season and I just want to get back my fitness. That's all that matters now."

Gates is confident that Ipswich can regain their place among the Championship challengers following

a season of frustration at Portman Road. And his decision to scrap his transfer request is proof of his determination.

"At one stage it seemed to make sense to move on," he says, "but now I realise I was wrong to ask for a transfer. I had nothing against the manager but I just felt we were losing too many players and becoming less of a force."

"But as I watched the games towards the end of last season I soon realised that Ipswich can still have a bright future ahead. Experienced players like Mick Mills, Arnold Muhren, Alan Brazil and Frans Thijssen have moved on but youngsters like Irvin Gernon, Trevor Putney and Kevin O'Callaghan have come in and done well."

"Apart from my own injury, George Burley was out for a long spell and it didn't help to have senior players missing at a time when we were introducing a few new faces. We finished ninth in the League and all things considered I don't think we did too badly."

"Next season I feel sure we can do a lot better. I just hope I can complete my own recovery and play my part. I've got a lot of lost ground to make up."



Whizz kid Williams

DAVID Williams looks set to be the manager who spearheads the city of Bristol out of its football slump.

At 28 — the youngest manager in the Football League — he has taken over at Rovers. "Promotion back to the Second Division has to be our first aim," he states.

"It is one heck of a challenge," says this former schoolmaster who could write his own footnote to football history. If he succeeds in steering Rovers into the Second Division, it is believed that he will be the youngest ever manager to achieve such a target.

He could even be playing international football!

He was called into the Welsh Under-21 side as an over-age player and had an outstanding chance of a first cap before injury took a hand.

'Injury'

"It was particularly frustrating because my top tally in a season is 13 goals — and before the injury I had scored 12," he says.

Rovers were even more hard hit. Stripped of his captaincy, shooting and tactical guidance, they just failed to snatch a promotion slot.

"I'll be fit again for next season," promises Williams, "but my role will be different. I have to distance myself from dressing room banter and socialising. I've decided already that Aiden McCaffery, who took over the captaincy when I was injured last season, now has the job permanently."

"I had also decided to move across from Cardiff to Bristol, now that becomes imperative. I've got to be on the spot all the time."

He takes over a club plainly on the way back. The financial position is stabilised and they have a squad and manager of rich talent.



1. Trevor Steven was transferred from Burnley to which First Division club recently for a fee of £300,000?

2. Can you name the two Liverpool players who scored the only goals in the 1978 and 1981 European Cup Finals against Bruges and Real Madrid respectively?

3. Charlie Nicholas, Arsenal's signing from Celtic, made his full Scotland debut against which country in a European Championship game at Hampden Park and marked the occasion with a goal?

4. Did Billy McNeill, Steve Chalmers or Tommy Gemmell captain Celtic when they became the first British club to win the European Cup in 1967?

5. Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson has been in charge of two other League clubs ... can you name them?



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GOAL GAME

Beat the SHOOT Quiz expert... if you can! Award yourself a goal for each correct answer and one for SHOOT if you fail to get it right. Put the scores in the boxes at the end of the questions.

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5. Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson has been in charge of two other League clubs... can you name them?



6. Former Middlesbrough and Nottingham Forest star Mark Proctor (above) will be playing for which club next season?

7. Crystal Palace's Kevin Mabbutt and brother Gary of Tottenham both played for Bristol clubs before both moving to London. Which one played for Rovers and which one for City?

8. True or false? West Ham defender Alvin Martin (left) began his League career with Orient.

9. If Alex Williams saved a penalty from Neale Cooper which English and Scottish clubs would be in action?

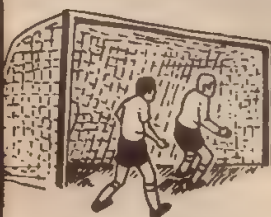
10. Mark Barham forced his way into the full England side during the tour of Australia. For which club does he play?

QUIZ RESULT

YOUR SCORE	SHOOT'S SCORE

ANSWERS:

1. Everton (25) 2. Bremner (2) 3. Scotland (25) 4. Chalmers (25) 5. Burnley (25) 6. Ipswich (25) 7. Rovers (25) 8. True (25) 9. Celtic (25) 10. Rovers (25)



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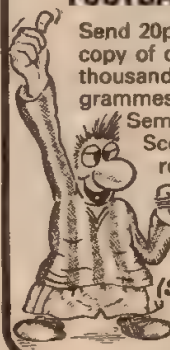
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The new series, compiled by Norman Giller, that spotlights the great post-War British teams.

ASSESSMENT

ALL that glittered on the English soccer scene during the 1950's was the old gold shirts of Wolves as they powered through a startling sequence of success.

In nine years, starting with the 1952-53 season, they won the League title three times, including successive Championships, finished out of the first three only once and were pipped for the F.A. Cup and League double by just one point in 1959-60.

Their method of pumping long balls out of defence for their forwards to chase might appear a crude tactic on paper but on the pitch it was mightily effective, as Watford proved last season with a resurrection of the no-nonsense Wolves style of play.

Wolves topped the century mark for League goals in four consecutive seasons and were crowned unofficial World Club Champions after memorable triumphs over Real Madrid, Moscow Spartak and Honved in floodlit thrillers that hurried the inauguration of organised European competition.

THE MANAGER

STAN CULLIS, captain of Wolves and England at the outbreak of the War, took over as manager at



Molineux in 1948.

He was a fanatically firm, uncompromising disciplinarian who had a genius for discerning talent and a capacity for team building rivalled in its day only by Matt Busby at Old Trafford.

Cullis preached and practised a doctrine of attacking football. "Take the shortest and quickest route to goal," was the maxim of a man whose fierce dedication to the game has rarely been matched. He was totally loyal to Wolves

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An indication of their reliability as the backbone of the Wolves team is that there were four international matches when the England half-back line read Clamp-Wright-Slater.

THE MIDFIELD

WITH the calculating Cullis insisting on quick release, the ball rarely stayed long in midfield. The chief architect of the attacking movements was Peter Broadbent, a master of ball control and precise passing.

Slater and Flowers shared mid-field duties with Broadbent, the intelligent Slater later replacing Wright as captain and centre-half. Eddie Clamp brought discipline and a competitive edge to the mid-field as a rugged right-half.

SATURDAY GIANTS

F.A. Cup winners 1960.
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WOLVES' GOLDEN GLORY YEARS

THE ATTACK

A FEATURE of the Wolves format was the flying wing play of tiny Johnny Hancocks and the clever Jimmy Mullen. Both were deadly accurate crossers of the ball and Hancocks packed a rocket shot in his size two right boot.

Norman Deeley later carried on the winger tradition and scored two goals in the 1960 F.A. Cup Final.

Waiting in the middle to convert the crosses of the Wolves wingers into goals were powerful forwards of the calibre of Roy Swinbourne, Dennis Wilshaw, Colin Booth and Bobby Mason.

They followed in the footsteps of the idolised Jesse Pye, a goal-

grabbing centre-forward in the immediate post-War years at Molineux. Barry Stobart and Jimmy Murray were plundering partners in the latter part of the Wolves success run.

THEIR RECORD

WOLVES were F.A. Cup winners in 1949, League Champions in 1953-54, 1957-58 and 1958-59, F.A. Cup winners again in 1960 and out of the first three in the First Division only three times between 1950 and 1961.

In the same period the reserves won the Central League seven times and the youth team reached three F.A. Youth Cup Finals.

Perhaps this golden Wolves era will be best remembered for their pioneering of European club football under floodlights. They mastered the mightiest teams in Europe in a series of unofficial

World Club Championship matches at Molineux.

These midweek evening games were screened on television — a rarity in those days — and the exciting exploits of Wolves captured the imagination and interest of the nation.

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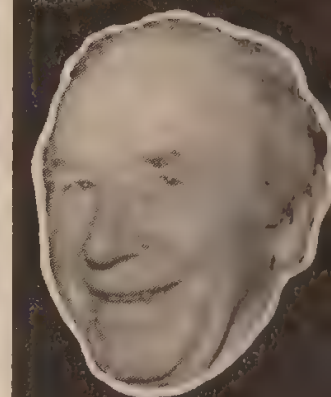
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shocks of the century when he was
sacked in 1964 after a short period
of relative failure. His Wolves team
of the 1950's is still warmly re-
membered as one of the greatest
of all British sides.

THE DEFENCE

THE goalkeeping was in the safe
hands of the graceful England in-
ternational Bert Williams and later
Malcolm Finlayson, a flying Scot
bought from Millwall.

Wolves were solid at full-back,
with Eddie Stuart and Bill Short-
house and then George Showell
and Gerry Harris as partners.

The real power emanated from
the half-back line that featured a
combination of Bill Slater, Billy
Wright, Eddie Clamp and Ron
Flowers, all England internation-



THE ATTACK

A FEATURE of the Wolves format
was the flying wing play of tiny
Johnny Hancocks and the clever
Jimmy Mullen. Both were deadly
accurate crossers of the ball and
Hancocks packed a rocket shot in
his size two right boot.

Norman Deeley later carried on
the winger tradition and scored
two goals in the 1960 F.A. Cup
Final.

Waiting in the middle to convert
the crosses of the Wolves wingers
into goals were powerful forwards
of the calibre of Roy Swinbourne,
Dennis Wilshaw, Colin Booth and
Bobby Mason.

They followed in the footsteps of
the idolised Jesse Pye, a goal-

Norman Deeley follows up as
Blackburn's McGrath (right) scores an
own goal in the 1960 F.A. Cup Final.

grabbing centre-forward in the im-
mediate post-War years at
Molineux. Barry Stobart and
Jimmy Murray were plundering
partners in the latter part of the
Wolves success run.

THEIR RECORD

WOLVES were F.A. Cup winners in
1949, League Champions in 1953-
54, 1957-58 and 1958-59, F.A. Cup
winners again in 1960 and out of
the first three in the First Division
only three times between 1950 and
1961.

In the same period the reserves
won the Central League seven
times and the youth team reached
three F.A. Youth Cup Finals.

Perhaps this golden Wolves era
will be best remembered for their
pioneering of European club foot-
ball under floodlights. They mas-
tered the mightiest teams in
Europe in a series of unofficial

World Club' Championship
matches at Molineux.

These midweek evening games
were screened on television — a
rarity in those days — and the
exciting exploits of Wolves cap-
tured the imagination and interest
of the nation.

In recent years, Wolves have
captured the headlines mainly for
their constant moves between the
First and Second Divisions, as well
as their much publicised escape
from bankruptcy last year. But at
least the long suffering Molineux
fans have some golden memories
to keep them happy.

Next week:
MEE'S MARVELS
MAKE IT A
GREAT DOUBLE
FOR ARSENAL

Are you a born leader?

We are making you captain for the day of a First Division team. The problems we're going to set in this special quiz are the sort you would face for real. Which decisions would you make? Test your leadership qualities:

1 The player you're replacing as captain tells you privately that he will not give you 100 per cent support on the pitch. Would you...

- (a) Tell the manager what he's threatening?
- (b) Scur and get on with doing the job as best you can?
- (c) Tell him not to be so silly and to put the team first?
- (d) Nail his boots to the dressing-room floor?

2 The manager orders a defensive strategy against opponents you know you should attack. Would you...

- (a) Accept that the manager knows best and say nothing?
- (b) Quietly tell the players to play it your way?
- (c) Give him an F.A. coaching book for Christmas?
- (d) Have a private chat and tell him about your doubts?

3 All the players are upset over a bonus dispute following a Cup run. Would you...

- (a) Act as spokesman for the players at a board meeting?
- (b) Let the tyres down on the chairman's car?
- (c) Tell the club: "Either pay us or we call in the Union"?
- (d) Take your contract to a solicitor to see what your rights are?

4 You win the toss on the day that there's a gale-force wind blowing. Would you...

- (a) Elect to play with the wind behind you in the first-half?
- (b) Decide that you would prefer the wind behind you in the second-half?
- (c) Look to the manager on the touchline for his advice?
- (d) Ask the other team's captain what he thinks is best?

5 One of your star team-mates is having matrimonial problems that are affecting his form. Would you...

- (a) Suggest he goes to see a marriage guidance counsellor?
- (b) Offer to draw up a divorce settlement?
- (c) Quietly tell the manager to sort it out?
- (d) Tell the player that football must come first at all times?

6 The referee calls you and the opposing captain together during a rough match and orders: "Cut out the rough stuff." Would you...

- (a) Kick the opposing captain at the first opportunity?
- (b) Tell your team-mates to "cool it" and to kick only the ball?
- (c) Order them to kick back only in retaliation?
- (d) Warn your players that the referee will send off the next offender?

7 The referee sends off one of your team-mates for an innocuous foul. Would you...

- (a) Tell the referee what you think of him then get on with the game?
- (b) Catch your manager's eye to see what tactical changes are needed?
- (c) Dip the ref's whistle in superglue?
- (d) Shrug it off and urge your team-mates on to greater efforts?

8 The manager is about to make a substitution that you know is wrong. Would you...

- (a) Point to the player you think should come off?
- (b) Accept the manager's decision and discuss it later?
- (c) Run to the touchline and plead with the manager to change his mind?
- (d) Tell the chairman that it's time to substitute the manager?

9 Your team is awarded a last-minute penalty in a vital Cup tie with the score 0-0 and with your penalty expert injured. Would you...

- (a) Elect to take the penalty yourself?
- (b) Call for a volunteer to take the spot-kick?
- (c) Blindfold the opposing goalkeeper?
- (d) Eliminate the player you think best suited to the job?

10 A hooligan runs on to the pitch to attack the referee after a disputed goal against your team. Would you...

- (a) Tackle the hooligan and hand him over to the police?
- (b) Join him in attacking the referee?
- (c) Tell your team-mates to let the stewards and police handle it?
- (d) Have a quiet word with the hooligan and tell him he's out of order?

RATINGS CHECK TABLE

If your score is 45 or more, you should go to the top of the captain's table.

If your score is between 30 and 44, you could become a captain with a more positive approach.

If your score is less than 30, you are better off to always follow the leader!

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7	(a)	1	(b)	5	(c)	0	(d)	3	(a)	7
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3	(a)	5	(b)	0	(c)	1	(d)	1	(a)	3
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JOHN CHIEDOZIE
Notts County

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This is highly elastic and produces a forceful recoil effect when you kick the ball. The uppers are made from super

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ter red material aids the natural flexing
ing energy expenditure and making the
genuine running shoe.

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stability, prevents stud pressure and allows extremely
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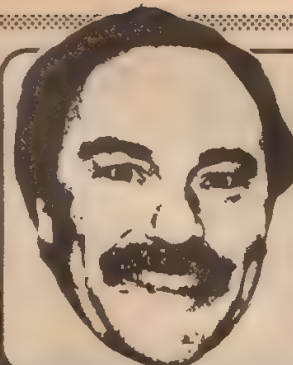
Pompey's ploy

Portsmouth's offer of £50,000 for Mark Hateley was an insult not only to Coventry but to the player as well. Was this their idea of a joke?

ANDREW FERGUSON,
ALREWAS, STAFFS



Realism has returned to the transfer market and nobody is going to pay £1m for a player any more. Portsmouth's offer does seem a little low, but they were obviously trying their luck in order to get the deal taken to a transfer tribunal, who have come down in favour of low fees in the majority of cases so far. But I think the tribunal's valuation of £190,000 was about right.



Straight shooting from JIMMY GREAVES

Write exclusively to: Jimmy Greaves, SHOOT, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. £10 for Star Letter, £4 others published. Overseas readers receive SHOOT. (shirts (please state size, small, medium or large). When writing please mention two features you liked best in the latest issue.

Not another Greaves?

A lot of people have said that Luton striker Paul Walsh could become 'another Jimmy Greaves'. What do you think of this comparison and what do you think of Walsh?

SIMON KNIBBLE
FORSBROOK, STAFFS



These comparisons are only made by lazy journalists who say "he's just like so and so," rather than go to the trouble of explaining all the qualities of a youngster. I was called the new Dixie Dean and the new Hughie Gallagher, and I remember that Peter Ward was also labelled the new Jimmy Greaves at one time. Such comparisons are terribly unfair. As far as Walsh is concerned, I believe that he is a very good footballer and I hope he goes on to become an established England international.

The young ones

The recent England v Scotland Schoolboys international at Wembley was a joy to watch. It's just a pity that the natural attacking ability will be stifled by negative coaches before any of these lads play for a professional club.

ADRIAN BONE
RIPON, YORKS



I agree that destructive coaching can ruin a young lad's natural flair, but contrary to popular opinion I'm not totally anti-coaching. What I am against is the negative coaching which has prevailed in the last 20 years, but that's because there are very few men capable of teaching young players any other way. To be honest, I don't put too much stock by schoolboy soccer because so many of them fall by the wayside. I wouldn't put money on any schoolboy international going on to the very top grade in professional soccer.

This week's Star Letter and £10 winner comes from Trevor Jones of Oxford Road, Linthorpe in Cleveland. He writes:



Disaster Down Under

Judging by England's poor performances in Australia they clearly had trouble in motivating themselves against second rate opposition. Surely Bobby Robson could have found a greater challenge much closer to home.



There was no logical reason for going to Australia in the first place. The tour was a complete failure and I cannot see why England set themselves up for the obvious backlash of criticism they would get if they didn't win all three games by five or six goals. Certainly the Football Association could have found better opposition, but why bother to tour in the first place? I'm all in favour of letting the players have a well deserved break, but the F.A. are obsessed with going away. All that has been gained from this tour is a bad name for English football, which it most certainly does not deserve.



Ouch!

After watching the World Cup film 'Gole' I feel compelled to write concerning the disgraceful tactics of Italy's Claudio Gentile against Diego Maradona (right). As a lover of Italian football, can you justify the tactics of this hatchet man?

PAUL SPEERS,
WINTON, MANCHESTER.



Every Italian team has a destroyer, it's just that Gentile is more ruthless than the others. Mind you, it's not only the Italians who use these hatchet men. The Argentinians are no angels themselves. I certainly wouldn't want to meet Daniel Passarella down some dark alley!



Mexico madness

The recent fiasco with exploding balloons during the World Youth Championship Final proves that the World Cup in Mexico will be a joke. As if that's not bad enough, Scotland have been fined by FIFA for swapping shirts with the Mexicans while local fans were rioting!

STEPHEN HOPE,
BLANTYRE, GLASGOW.



Nobody wants the World Cup in Mexico, but it's South America's turn to host the tournament and the President of FIFA is a Brazilian. Once Colombia and Brazil had both turned the tournament down, it should have been offered to one of the several European nations willing to stage the World Cup. Certainly the matches played at Mexico City's unacceptable height will be a severe disadvantage for European teams and the whole competition will be a farce if it's not organised better than the Youth Championships. And I'm sure a South American team will win it.

Brazilian rubbish

Did you see the Brazilian Cup Final shown on TV? Comparing it to our own thriller between Manchester United and Brighton, you can keep Zico and his pals. Give me British football any day.

MARTIN LEWIS,
EASTCOTE, MIDDX.



Hear, hear! The quality, organisation and ability of the Brazilians was not a patch on our own players. People talk of Flamengo and Santos as if they're from another world, but their Final was nowhere near as good as the United v Brighton games. I just hope those critics who knock our game saw for themselves the real standard of Brazilian football.

Fab Phil

I'm glad Phil Thompson has turned down a move to Portsmouth. Although injuries kept him out of action for much of last season, I'm sure he'll soon be back at the heart of the Liverpool and England defences.

GARY KNIGHT,
MORETON, MERSEYSIDE.



If I had to select one current Liverpool player as an Anfield manager of the future it would be Phil (right). Therefore, I feel he must finish his career at Liverpool. Players who leave the club, such as John Toshack and Emlyn Hughes, don't seem to get the chance to follow men like Bob Paisley, Joe Fagan and Ronnie Moran.



NEXT WEEK...

**SOCCER'S \$8 MILLION
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MARADONA SLAMS
THE KICKERS!**

**Gordon Strachan's
debt to a
West German star**

**Andy Gray's
Scotland shock**



**Gordon McQueen's
winning feeling**

**How centre-half John
Wark was 'made' at
West Ham**

**The great
Scottish gates
boom!**

**Special Report on the
prospects of promoted
QPR, Wolves and
Leicester City**

IN COLOUR

**England stars off duty
Down Under + Charlie
Nicholas (Arsenal) +
John O'Neill
(Leicester) + Super
Focus on Craig
Paterson (Rangers).**

**All this and much
more in SHOOT
the Champion
soccer magazine!**

Old Firm prepare for battle

WITH an Aladdin's Cave of glittering prizes adorning their sweep through football, it's hardly surprising that the Old Firm of Celtic and Rangers have been the focal point of the Scottish game for so many years ... but suddenly the spotlight has swung away from Glasgow.

Celtic finished the season with only a League Cup triumph to show for their efforts. That earned them a place in the third-rated UEFA Cup in the new term.

Rangers completed a traumatic programme with a barren trophy cabinet. It was of little consolation to John Greig's outfit that they reached both the Finals of the Scottish Cup and League Cup.

The limelight has now firmly been centred on the East and the question is: Can Glasgow's big two restore the balance next season?

Programme

Six of the ten-team Premier Division will come from the East when the new programme gets underway — the two Dundee sides, Aberdeen, St Johnstone and the Edinburgh pair of Hibs and Hearts.

Dundee United won the Premier Division Championship in fine fashion and, remarkably, completed the programme a mammoth 18 points ahead of Rangers.

And while the Old Firm both topped out of Europe in the Second Round, the Tannadice men reached the Quarter-Finals of the UEFA Cup for the second successive year — again going out by a solitary goal.

Aberdeen captured the hearts and imagination of Europe with their superb performance against Real Madrid in the Cup-Winners' Cup Final in Gothenburg and, just for good measure, they added the Scottish Cup ten days later.

The previous season The Dons missed out on the League title — won by Celtic — by a single point, won the Scottish Cup and were so

unlucky to go out of Europe to SV Hamburg.

West German international Manny Kaltz is not surprised by Aberdeen's rise to fame.

"When they were drawn against Bayern Munich in the Quarter-Finals of the Cup-Winners' Cup I told Paul Breitner they would be extremely dangerous," says Kaltz.

"I warned him to be careful because they had given us a hell of

a time of it the previous year. They attacked us all the way over the two legs. The match at Pittodrie was an overwhelming experience. It finished 3-2 in their favour, and they were definitely superior on that night.

"Felix Magath had one of his magical nights for us in the second leg and we won 3-1, but we were made to battle all the way.

"Now we will be meeting again in the European Super Cup Final and again I know we will face a difficult three hours of football against them."

Looking to next season's

*Alex Ferguson,
mastermind behind
Aberdeen's success
story.*



battle

forthcoming League programme, Aberdeen manager Alex Ferguson says: "It looks as though we will be involved in a derby game every second Saturday!

"Dundee United, Dundee and St Johnstone are all close rivals and that means 12 derby games in the League.

"These confrontations should pull in the crowds and should also prove to be healthy for competition.

"Scottish soccer has spread its wings and it's certainly good for the game up here.

"Last season we won two trophies ... now I want us to win at least three. You must keep progressing in football."

Celtic and Rangers, as you might expect, are hardly likely to let Aberdeen and Dundee United

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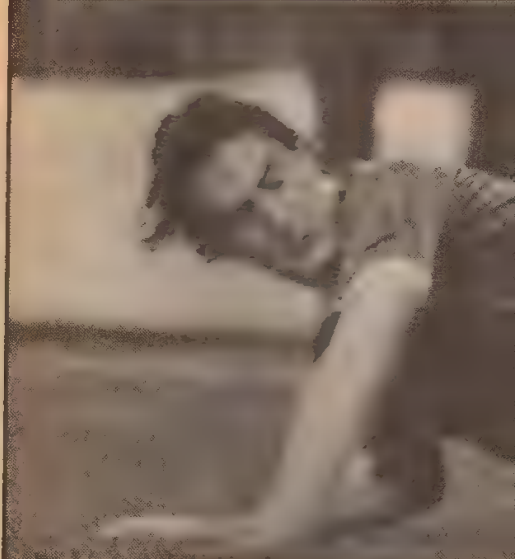
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*Rangers' Ian Redford slides in to dispossess Frank M
Both Glasgow clubs are well aware that the Old Firm
football season has been broken by Aberdeen and D*



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Looking to next season's

Alex Ferguson, mastermind behind Aberdeen's success story.



Dundee United's Paul Hegarty (light shirt) was chosen to captain his country against Northern Ireland recently.

precious every point is in the Scottish Premier.

"Good luck to both Dundee United and Aberdeen. They are due the praise that has come their way, but I firmly believe Celtic deserve to be right at the top of the tree and I'm sure that's where they will be at the end of next season."

Ibrox boss John Greig echoes those sentiments and is currently preparing his troops for an assault on the League Championship which has not come Rangers' direction since 1978.

But Rangers, like Celtic, will be without one of their key men when the big kick-off comes around again and that is hardly likely to help their cause.

Jim Bett, the man who controlled the Ibrox midfield for three years, has gone back to Belgian football, signing for former club SK Lokeren.

While John Greig looks for a replacement, Celtic have signed

Motherwell's Brian McClair in the hope that he can take over from Charlie Nicholas.

The Old Firm also realise they gave only five players to Jock Stein's recent international squads — Nicholas, Tommy Burns and Roy Aitken from Celtic, and Rangers' Ally Dawson and Jim Bett, later to pull out after his shock transfer.

Aberdeen alone provided seven players — Jim Leighton, Willie Miller, Alex McLeish, Neil Simpson, Gordon Strachan, Peter Weir and Mark McGhee.

Dundee United gave two fewer than their rivals from Pittodrie — Paul Hegarty, who skippered his country against Northern Ireland, David Narey, Paul Sturrock, Richard Gough and Eamonn Bannon.

Youngsters

And just look at the brilliant youngsters from both Pittodrie and Tannadice who are pushing for full international recognition ... Eric Black, Neale Cooper, John Hewitt, Bryan Gunn and Maurice Malpas.

So, on the face of things, the challenge from the East is going to be sustained and Hibs and Hearts, too, promise to get stronger in the coming years.

The cry in Scottish soccer at the moment would appear to be: Go East, young man.

Next season promises to be an intriguing and exciting one for football fans in Scotland. Gates were up last season and that trend will hopefully continue.

The spotlight has switched from Glasgow ... Celtic and Rangers are no longer what Scottish football is all about.

But you can be absolutely certain those mighty Glasgow giants will be doing everything possible to rectify the balance.

forthcoming League programme, Aberdeen manager Alex Ferguson says: "It looks as though we will be involved in a derby game every second Saturday!

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Celtic and Rangers, as you might expect, are hardly likely to let Aberdeen and Dundee United

storm their castles and plunder their golden treasures again without an almighty fight.

But Celtic must start next season with a new manager following Billy McNeill's shock exit to join Manchester City.

Before leaving, Billy had this to say about last term.

"Obviously we were all sorely disappointed at the way things went last season. But it could have been so different.

"I can only reflect on what-might-have-been. We dropped silly points and paid the penalty. During my five years as manager of the club we won the Premier Division title three times and were runners-up twice, only a point behind the eventual winners on both occasions.

"Surely that underlines just how



Rangers' Ian Bedford slides in to dispossess Frank McGarvey of Celtic. Both Glasgow clubs are well aware that the Old Firm stranglehold on Scottish soccer has been broken by Aberdeen and Dundee United.



CRYSTAL PALACE goalkeeper George Wood shunned the sun spots to spend an unlikely close season ... bird-watching in Iceland.
A keen ornithologist, George spent two weeks camping in one of Europe's finest bird sanctuaries on the banks of Lake Myvatn where he carried out some valuable work for the British Bird Association.

WHICH WAY FOR McNAUGHT?

ASTON VILLA are in danger of losing the services of their long-serving central defender Ken McNaught.

The big Scot, who joined Villa in a £250,000 deal from Everton six years ago, is a free agent following the completion of a one-year contract.

At 28, McNaught (right) makes no secret of his desire to secure his long-term future. "I have been happy at Villa Park but I owe it to myself and my family to listen to all offers at this stage in my career," he said.



ST MIRREN full-back Bobby Cousar just can't get away from the colours black and white. He wears them every time he turns out for the Paisley club ... and off the field he sees them all the time looking after his father's herd of 70 Friesian cows!

Bobby's parents run a farm near Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, and the highly-promising 21-year-old has to milk the herd before he reports to Love Street for training each morning — and when he returns home at night.

THREE Londonderry youngsters, midfielders John Cunningham and Paul Kee and winger Alan Edgar, have joined Fourth Division Mansfield under the Government's Youth Opportunities Programme.

McLEAN GOES WORLDWIDE

SCOTTISH CHAMPIONS Dundee United have beaten stiff opposition to sign midfield star Jim Easton from Tampa Bay Rowdies.

Easton, a naturalised Canadian, impressed Tannadice boss Jim McLean (left) when he was in Canada for Scotland's recent international tour. The 18-year-old will join United for pre-season training and is expected to be offered a long-term contract.

United are also giving trials to 19-year-old striker Rod Brown, a member of the Australian team which beat Scotland in the recent World Youth Championships.



Cash crisis? 'Blame the boss' says Taylor

PFA SECRETARY Gordon Taylor has launched an attack on soccer's overpaid bosses, claiming that they are the real reason for the game's financial problems.

Incensed at suggestions that today's players earn too much, Taylor says: "I'm very annoyed by managers such as John Bond who say that players' wages must be cut."

"I never see them claiming that their own wages should be similarly reduced, yet in the case of virtually every top club the manager earns more than any of his players."

"What's more, it's the managers who are responsible for writing out the players' contracts and I believe some managers pay their staff high wages simply so they can demand even more for themselves."

WEST BROMWICH ALBION have a Bank Holiday game at Glasgow Rangers on August 1.

Manager Ron Wylie was delighted to accept the match as he feels that the opposition that Rangers will provide will be a very good pre-season work-out for what will be a new-look Albion side next season.

The joke's on Pompey

THE SURPRISE £200,000 deal which took Kevin Dillon from Birmingham to Portsmouth began as a joke!

Pompey chairman John Deacon reveals that he and manager Bobby Campbell originally intended to sign Alan Curbishley. When he turned down a move, Mr Deacon light-heartedly asked Blues boss Ron Saunders: "What about Dillon then?"

The Pompey pair were not expecting to be taken seriously — but the remark led to negotiations which resulted in the brilliant midfielder moving to Fratton Park.

Happy Birthday

July 10th Frank Stapleton (Man. Utd) 27.
July 11th Dave Bennett (Cardiff) 24.
Geoff Palmer (Wolves) 29.



July 12th Mark Barham (Norwich) 21
Paul Cooper (Ipswich) 26
Michael Robinson (Brighton) 25
Steve Williams (Southampton) 25
July 13th Ian Bolton (above, Watford) 30
July 14th Arthur Albiston (Man. Utd) 26
July 16th Keith Edwards (Sheff. Utd) 26
John Hollins (Chelsea) 37

WEMBLEY WINNER

DAVID TUTTLE can already claim to have scored the winning goal in a Cup Final at Wembley, even though he is only 11-years-old!

His golden goal was enough to give Mortimer St. Mary School, Reading, victory in the ESFA/Smiths Foods Six-a-Side Championship, which attracted entries from more than 6,000 schools nationwide.

David, who had already hit 100 goals for

his school team before Wembley, is pictured after receiving the trophy from Mr Mike Whittaker of Smiths Foods and Mr Ron Davies, Chairman of the English Schools' Football Association.

He and his colleagues also received a full set of playing gear, as did the other three area winners who took part in the final stages prior to last month's England-Scotland schoolboy international.



THE young Arsenal and ... breathed a h ... the Tories w ... South-East i ... Election.

For the d ... date was K ... education ad ... to teach you ... with the p ... SOCIETY.

Just like youngsters from Kate ... cause she'll ... with her clas ...

FORMER S ... captain Ge ... turned Nor ... being relea ... join Hearts ... the Premie ...

Inside football with MARK IRWIN

WHATEVER else happens, Huddersfield are certain to be the loudest team Division Two next season. The Leeds road players are encouraged to shout on-stop during matches because manager Mick Buxton and coach John Haselden believe helps keep them totally involved in matches.

FORMER England Youth team captain Mike Bennett is looking forward to First Division football just as much as his club gives him a free season. He is a releasee to the club.

Bennett was released by Bolton and looked set to join Bradford City, but the club have been a sudden loss of interest. He promoted Wolves instead, in and signed him a contract.

Explained Bennett: "I had very bad chest being treated for heart trouble. I was in a position I found myself in. Wolves offered me the chance of First Division football."

THE Ipswich tri ... Trevor Putney ... Kinsella and K ... O'Callaghan a ... their match re ... when they too ... advantage of ... summer break ... married.

Thistle's sting

3HT members at Meadowbank Thistle's first team squad elected the club's winner for the new season.

I'm told that despite winning promotion last term, Thistle increased the players' basic wage but have offered appearance money. However, with the players having new terms and the club wanting to budge, deadlock re shadowbank ...

Cash crisis? me the boss' says Taylor

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stages prior to last month's England-
Scotland schoolboy international.



ELECTION BOOST

THE young footballers of Spurs,
Arsenal and other top London clubs
breathed a huge sigh of relief when
the Tories won the seat of Dulwich
South-East in the recent General
Election.

For the defeated Labour candi-
date was Kate Hoey, a football
education advisor who gives classes
to teach youngsters how to cope
with the pressures of big-time
soccer.

Just like Margaret Thatcher, the
youngsters have certainly gained
from Kate's failure at the polls be-
cause she'll now be free to continue
with her classes.

FORMER Scottish youth team
captain George Cowie has re-
turned North of the border after
being released by West Ham to
join Hearts, newly promoted to
the Premier Division.

Inside Football with MARK IRWIN

WHATEVER else happens, Hudders-
field are certain to be the loudest team
in Division Two next season. The Leeds
road players are encouraged to shout
on-stop during matches because
manager Mick Buxton and
coach John Haselden believe
helps keep them totally
involved in matches.

FORMER England Youth team
captain Mike Bennett is look-
ing forward to First Division
football just weeks after being
given a free transfer by a side
relegated to the Third!

Bennett was released by Bol-
ton and looked set to join Brad-
ford City, but his fortunes took
a sudden boost when newly-
promoted Wolves stepped in
and signed him on a one-year
contract.

Explained Bennett: "I feel
very bad about letting Brad-
ford boss Trevor Cherry down,
but I think he appreciates the
position I found myself in when
Wolves offered me the chance
of First Division football."

THE Ipswich trio of
Trevor Putney, Tony
Kinsella and Kevin
O'Callaghan all met
their match recently
when they took
advantage of the
summer break to get
married.

Thistle's sting

28T members of Meadowbank Thistle's first team squad have
elected the club's terms for the new season.

I'm told that despite winning promotion last term, Thistle have
t increased the players' basic wage but have offered more in
pearance money. However, with the players having rejected
e new terms and the club refusing to budge, deadlock reigns at
Meadowbank Stadium.

FORMER Leicester City Cup Final defender
Richie Norman is Northampton Town's new
trainer-coach. Norman played for the Filbert
Street club in their losing 1961 and 1963 F.A.
Cup Final teams.

ARNOLD MUHREN'S penalty for
Manchester United in the F.A.
Cup Final replay against
Brighton was the first spot-kick
the Dutchman had taken since
arriving in this country five
years ago.

Says Arnold: "I didn't take
any penalties at Ipswich be-
cause John Wark was so accu-
rate from the spot, and I only
took the kick in the Final be-
cause Steve Coppell and
Ashley Grimes were missing."



WHEN Norwich City won the F.A. Youth
Cup last season they were impressed
with the centre-forward of beaten
Finalists, Everton.

And when 18-year-old Mark
Farrington was handed a free transfer
by the Merseysiders just a couple of
weeks later he immediately made
contact with Carrow Road.

The outcome is that Mark has earned
himself a one-year contract with The
Canaries and he says: "Norwich have
given me a terrific chance. I want to
repay them by making the grade and
proving Everton wrong."

Mark was an instant hit with his new
club, scoring five goals in an
international youth tournament in
Holland!

POWER'S PLEA

MANCHESTER CITY captain Paul
Power believes the recent man-
agerial upheavals at Maine Road
are partly responsible for the
club's demise.

He claims: "Although you can
blame no one but the players for
last season's relegation, the
team has been very unsettled by
all the managerial manoeuvres."

"Just as we get used to one
manager, he suddenly goes and
we have to start all over again."

"I can only hope that the next
City manager can bring stability
back to the club, because that's
what we need more than any-
thing right now."

SWEDISH car firm Saab
have been decidedly un-
lucky with their soccer
sponsorship so far. They
backed Derby County —
and The Rams promptly
slipped into the Second Di-
vision. Last season, they
sponsored . . . Manchester
City! A company official
joked: "No wonder every
other club in the League
wants us to do a deal with
Liverpool!" But Saab ARE
staying with City.



Did you know?

ROTHERHAM UNITED have had
more Scottish managers since the
War than any other League club.
Current boss George Kerr is the
sixth Scotsman to occupy the man-
ager's seat at Millmoor, following
Tommy Docherty, Tom Johnston,
Tom McNameaney, Jimmy
McGuigan and Ian Porterfield.

McGarvey on the move

ALTHOUGH Manchester United
failed in their bid to lure Charlie
Nicholas to Old Trafford, their in-
terest in the former Celtic goal ace,
has prompted reserve striker Scott
McGarvey into asking for a transfer.

Frustrated by a lack of first team
opportunities, McGarvey saw Un-
ited's interest in Nicholas as further
evidence that he did not figure in
manager Ron Atkinson's plans.

Atkinson has agreed to McGar-
vey's request and an offer some-
where in the region of £150,000
should be sufficient for them to part
company.

WBA star Paul Barron will be
running a summer goalkeeping
school in partnership with former
QPR 'keeper Mike Kelly at Aston
University in Birmingham from
July 18-22. Visiting 'keepers who'll
be on hand to help any budding
Peter Shiltons will include Mark
Grew, Jim Blyth, Tony Godden,
Tony Coton and Mick Kearns.
Further information can be
obtained from: The International
Goalkeeping School, c/o WBA FC,
Halfords Lane, West Bromwich.



I'm going nowhere!

I WAS astonished to learn that I am wanted by one of the big Italian League clubs.

There it was in bold black print in one of our popular national newspapers. The words that caught my eye were: "Glenn Hoddle and Ray Wilkins have been registered with the Italian League by Roma to beat the ban on foreign players — now the club hope to convince one of the two England stars to join them."

Glenn, I know, has been examining his future closely. His contract at Tottenham is up for renewal and at the age of 25 he has to be very careful about his next step in the game.

The end of a contract doesn't automatically mean that a player has to leave his club but it gives him an opportunity to go elsewhere if he thinks his career will benefit from such a move.

No player has been more loyal to one club than Glenn, who has been at Spurs since 1975.

Experience

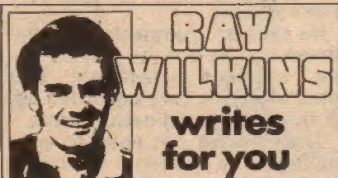
Would I like to play in the Italian League and follow the well-trodden path taken by many British stars over the years? I'd certainly love to gain experience with a top foreign club.

AC Milan, Juventus and Roma are three fine clubs in the land of Fiat cars, sunshine and opera.

But unless the newspapers know something I don't, I won't be straying too far from Old Trafford.

These stories of "will he go" amuse me. It's all fantasy and speculation, interesting nonetheless.

Perhaps it is time to remind people of my feelings a week or two back when I waltzed across



the Wembley pitch wearing the tokens of victory in the F.A. Cup Final.

I realised then that all the hard work and occasional heartache had been worthwhile — and I felt very much a part of Manchester United.

I remember thinking on my circular tour of the Wembley pitch that the joyous post-match celebrations were likely to be the start of many such occasions for our loyal fans.

And I want to be part of them.

The next five years at Old Trafford promise to be the most exciting seasons the club have enjoyed for almost 20 years. Manchester United did well to get to three F.A. Cup Finals in 1976 (losers), 1977 (winners) and 1979 (losers) but those Wembley appearances were not quite so rewarding for the club as their great exploits under Sir Matt Busby in the 1960s.

I'm firmly convinced that we are on the threshold of greatness again. The enthusiasm, dedication to the job, and depth of talent in our ranks means that we will challenge heavily for the First Division title again from the big August kick-off, and we've proved that we have retained our Cup fighting spirit.



My former United team-mate Joe Jordan is coming back to this country despite scoring regularly with AC Milan.

United's strength in depth is highlighted by the progress made by Alan Davies, virtually unknown before the Cup Final.

On top of that, we can look forward to the European Cup-Winners' Cup competition, hoping we get a fairly easy draw to prepare us for a long run.

So you can see why I don't want to go off to Italy. I'd be missing all the fun.

I can't say I'd never go abroad because you don't know what the future holds in this crazy, unpredictable game.

More and more British players will take up offers from abroad. You can't blame us for taking advantage of their unbelievable contracts, though I sometimes feel that the British fans think that players are being disloyal if they take the plunge.

Return

But as several England players consider the possibility of joining Trevor Francis on the Italian professional circuit, my old team-mate Joe Jordan prepares to make the return journey.

Joe found Italy a tremendous experience despite AC Milan's decision to part with his goalscoring talents. I doubt whether Joe regretted his Italian experience. Indeed, from what I hear, he would have liked another year out there.

These comings and goings are now part and parcel of a player's life.

Now I'm off to tennis... in good old England.

Ray Wilkins

1 TREVOR FRANCIS was born in Plymouth on 19 April, 1954. Almost as soon as he could walk he was encouraged by his father, a former semi-professional, to have a ball at his feet.

2 He was playing in a scratch match in a Plymouth park when his schoolmaster made a prophetic remark to his father: "One day, young Trevor will play for England." He was then just five-years-old!

3 League scouts were on his trail from the age of eight. He was playing schools football in an age group two and three years ahead of him and captained most of the school teams in which he played.

TREVOR FRANCIS

4 His one major disappointment as a schoolboy was that he failed to win an England cap. He was discarded after a trial match and it convinced him that his best chance of progress in the professional game would be with a club in the lower grade.

5 Advised by his father not to get tied down too early, he turned down advances from Arsenal and Wolves. Instead he trained at Plymouth where John Sillett, later coach to Bristol City, spotted him.

6 Sillett, who had been a team-mate to Jimmy Greaves when both were starting out with Chelsea in the 1950s, said: "This lad Francis is the best young prospect I've seen since the great Jimmy Greaves."

7 He tried hard to persuade Trevor to start his career with Bristol City but he preferred to join Second Division Birmingham City after meeting manager Stan Cullis, who had been a legendary figure during a long reign at Wolves.

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7 He tried hard to persuade Trevor to start his career with Bristol City but he preferred to join Second Division Birmingham City after meeting manager Stan Cullis, who had been a legendary figure during a long reign at Wolves.

8 Freddie Goodwin took over from Cullis as manager at St. Andrews and after watching apprentice Francis play in the Midland Intermediate League he decided on a quick promotion into the Birmingham first team.

9 Trevor made his Second Division debut as a substitute for Johnny Vincent against Cardiff City and scored in his first full match the following week, a 1-1 draw with Oxford City.

10 He made national headlines on February 20, 1971, when he scored four goals in a one-man bombardment of Bolton. The Press immediately dubbed him "The new Jimmy Greaves". Trevor was just 16 and had chosen Jimmy's birthday for his goal spree!

11 Birmingham signed him as a full professional on his 17th birthday in 1971 and paid him what was then the astronomical wage of £84 a week. The following month he was the outstanding player in the England team that won the European Youth Tournament.

The series that gives you an insight into the lives of star players.

12 Francis harboured secret doubts about his ability to establish himself at the very top grade. But these doubts were finally buried when, in his first full season as a pro, he helped shoot Birmingham back to the First Division.



Trevor heads the only goal of the 1979 European Cup Final for Forest against Malmo.

13 He gained the first of five England Under-23 caps against Poland on his hometown ground at Plymouth on 16 October, 1973. His first full cap followed on 9 February, 1977, against Holland at Wembley.

14 Sir Alf Ramsey took over as Birmingham manager, but Trevor was becoming unsettled and was fined for stating publicly that he wanted a move to a bigger, more ambitious club.

15 Minnesota Kicks tried to take him full-time to the United States with a massive £600,000 bid. But new manager Jim Smith convinced Trevor that Birmingham could satisfy his ambitions and he agreed to stay at St Andrews with the proviso that he could spend the summer with Detroit Express in return for a payment of \$100,000 for 20 games.

16 Trevor was trusted with the biggest secret in football in February, 1979. He was about to become British football's first £1 million player. Nottingham Forest beat off competition from Coventry City to clinch the sensational deal that netted Trevor a personal pay-out of £48,750.

17 He rewarded Forest three months later with a magnificent winning goal in the 1979 European Cup Final against Malmo in Munich. Just 11 months later he secretly feared that he might never play again after rupturing an Achilles tendon.

18 It took seven frustrating months for Trevor to overcome his injury, during which time Barcelona made a secret £1,500,000 bid for him.

19 Trevor proved his fitness, but then came the bombshell news that Brian Clough had agreed to sell him to Manchester City in a £1,200,000 deal that was finalised in September, 1981.

20 Francis was happy in the Manchester City attack but the Maine Road club were struggling to balance their books. He had a secret ambition to play abroad and after starring for England in the 1982 World Cup Finals, Trevor joined Sampdoria in Italy where he has underlined his standing as a truly world class player.

**Super
Focus**

RAY LEWINGTON

Fulham

FULL NAME: Ray Keith Lewington
BIRTHPLACE: Lambeth, London
BIRTHDATE: September 7th, 1956
HEIGHT: 5ft 7ins
WEIGHT: 11st 6lbs
MARRIED: Yes, to Ann
CHILDREN: One-year-old son Craig
CAR: Ford Escort
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Chelsea and Vancouver Whitecaps
JOB OR TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: Apprentice footballer
NICKNAME: 'Lew'
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Sunday Express
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Ray Wilkins (Man. Utd)
A PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Fulham's Peter Scott
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Chelsea
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: Bobby Charlton
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Cricket
OTHER SPORTS PERSON YOU MOST ADMIRE: Seb Coe
YOUR BEST EVER ALL TIME XI: Banks, Vogts, Beckenbauer, Carlos Alberto, Sansom, Brady, Gerson, Hudson, Pele, Best, Maradona
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: My League debut for Chelsea
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Failing to win promotion last season
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: Newcastle
BEST STADIUM PLAYED IN: Giants Stadium, New York
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES...
DISLIKES: Reading... Long journeys
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Elton John and Stevie Wonder
FAVOURITE ACTOR AND ACTRESS: Dennis Waterman and Barbra Streisand
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Devon
BEST FILM SEEN RECENTLY: 'Airplane'
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: 'Minder'
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Lazing around
FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK: Sea food, tea and bitter
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: The youth team staff at Chelsea, Ken Shellito and Dario Gradi.
SUPERSTITIONS: None
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None
PERSONAL AMBITION: Just to be happy
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? Bouncer for Mothercare!
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: I'd like to stay in football
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? No one in particular



Elton John

SHOOT!